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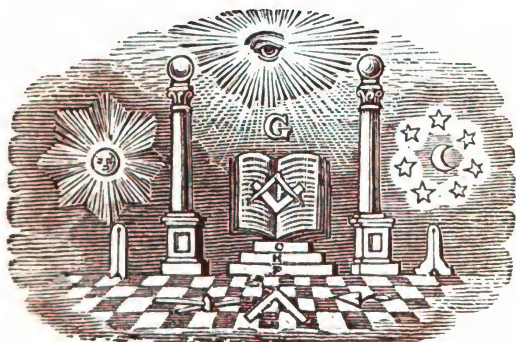
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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Grand Royal Arch Chapter
OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
AT ITS ANNUAL CONVOCATION,



HELD IN CONCORD, JUNE, 1860.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW-HAMPSHIRE,

June, 1860.

THE Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New-Hampshire was held at the Masonic Temple in Concord, on Monday, June 11, A. D. 1860, A. I. 2390.

Grand Officers present :

Theodore T. Abbot, *M. E. Grand High Priest.*

George H. Hubbard, *E. Grand King.*

Edward W. Harrington, *E. Grand Treasurer.*

Horace Chase, *E. Grand Secretary.*

Thomas Pearson, *E. Grand Captain of the Host.*

Abel Hutchins, *E. Grand Steward.*

A quorum of the Grand Officers and Members being present, the Grand Chapter was opened with prayer by the M. E. Grand High Priest in ample form.

On motion of Comp. Hubbard—

Voted, To dispense with reading the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation, as a printed Journal was in the hands of the Companions present.

Comps. Greenleaf Cummings and A. H. Saunders were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

On motion of Comp. Hubbard—

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter shall be called from labor, it be to two o'clock in the afternoon, and that three o'clock this afternoon be assigned for the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year.

The Committee on Credentials made a report that the following Grand Officers, Members, and Visiting Companions were present and entitled to seats :

T. T. Abbott, *M. E. Grand High Priest*.

George H. Hubbard, *E. Grand King*.

E. W. Harrington, *E. Grand Treasurer*.

Horace Chase, *E. Grand Secretary*.

Thomas Pearson, *E. Grand Captain of the Host*.

Abel Hutchins, }
C. W. Harvey, } *E. Grand Stewards*.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 2.

Josiah Stevens, Jr., *High Priest* ;

Abel Hutchins, *King* ;

E. H. Rollins, *Proxy for Scribe*.

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, No. 4.

Thomas E. Hatch, *High Priest* ;

Solomon Laws, *Proxy for King*.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 5.

William H. Cummings, *Proxy for King* ;

Greenleaf Cummings, *Proxy for Scribe*.

MERIDIAN SUN CHAPTER, No. 9.

A. H. Saunders, *High Priest* ;

Jacob D. March, *Proxy for King* ;

O. H. Phillips, *Scribe*.

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 11.

D. C. Gould, *High Priest* ;

J. B. Fish, *King* ;

N. W. Conner, *Scribe*.

Visiting Companions :

L. A. Walker, J. W. Robinson, H. G. Wyman, Harvey Rice, J. E. Wyman, Edward Dow, Concord ; Charles W. Tilton, James Earnshaw, Sanbornton ; Jonas Parker, Goshen ; David Murray, Newmarket ; Thomas Snow, Somersworth ; James Adams, Deerfield ; Elisha E. Dodge, Rollinsford ; J. I. Williams, L. S. Moore, Lancaster.

Comp. Greenleaf Cummings offered the following resolution, which, having the effect to alter the Grand Regulations, was ordered to be put on file and lay over for consideration till the next Annual Convocation :

Resolved, That hereafter the annual meeting of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be holden at Concord on Tuesday next following the first Wednesday of June, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon.

Comp. Hubbard offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be requested to cause to be published five hundred copies of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter from its first formation, including the present Convocation ; which, on motion of Comp. H. Chase, was referred to a Special Committee consisting of Comps. Chase, Hubbard, and G. Cummings.

The Grand Chapter was then called off till two o'clock in the afternoon.

AFTERNOON.—At two o'clock in the afternoon the Grand Chapter was called to labor.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then read the following address, which was ordered to be put on file and printed with the proceedings.

THE M. E. GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

Companions of the Grand Chapter of New-Hampshire :

DEAR BRETHREN:—A kind and beneficent Providence has spared our lives, and permitted us once more to assemble in this place, consecrated by the genius of Masonry to peace and to friendship, for the discharge of our several appropriate duties. And, my brethren, if we have come up to this Annual Convocation imbued with the spirit of our cherished institution, discord and strife have no place in our assembly. Selfish ambition, party spirit, and a desire for personal advantage, regardless of the rights of others and the greatest good of the whole, if these vile passions are ever allowed to possess our bosoms elsewhere, I trust they were “banished far hence” when we passed the vestibule of this asylum, and we are here in our several stations animated by one feeling, controlled by one motive, and that motive the prosperity and welfare of Masonry and the highest good of mankind. The principles which underlie Free-masonry, and upon which its foundations rest, bind us, my brethren, to an unwavering support of civil government, the administration of impartial justice, the diffusion of light and knowledge, the advancement of learning, a strict adherence to the rules of morality and justice in our intercourse with all mankind, and the unrestrained and devout worship of the Supreme Ruler of the universe. Let the brethren exemplify these fundamental principles of our Order with sobriety, and Free-masonry will have nothing to fear from the assaults of its enemies. The poisonous darts they hurl at our fair Temple will fall broken and harmless to the ground.

During the three years I have occupied this office, no member of this Grand Body has been summoned away by death. This surely calls for devout gratitude and most fervent thanksgiving from us. But I am reminded, by my own increasing infirmities and the whitening locks of some of my venerable Companions, which each succeeding year assimilates more and more to the color of the pale robe that waits to embrace them, that our ranks can not long remain unbroken. Some of us are fast approaching the end of the rugged paths of life, and we shall soon knock at those portals which are thrown wide open to all to enter, but where our work must be inspected with an unerring square.

The dark storm of persecution, which a few years since swept across our horizon, has passed away, and few traces of its vengeful work now remain to mark the folly of its abettors. We hail to-day the returning wave of prosperity; but it must be

remembered that this too bears on its bosom grave responsibilities and dangers even; for, if it does not wash away some of the ancient landmarks, there is danger that it will contain too large an infusion of the turbid waters of strife and selfish ambition. Important influences for good or evil must result to society from the combinations of such vast numbers; and, Companions, it must not for a moment be forgotten by us that these influences will leave their impressions on the sands of coming time, as the distinct footprints of Masonry.

In armies, the firmness of old and trained soldiers is relied upon to correct the erratic tendencies of new recruits; and such, my brethren, is henceforth the duty of those of us who have long wrought in these quarries—the strength and vigor of youth has passed, the eye is dim and memory grows treacherous, but we may sit a little longer in the gale, to inspect the stones which in future must compose the Masonic Temple. Let us strive to set an example of fidelity and moderation worthy of imitation by those who have the burthen and heat of the day yet before them.

But little has transpired since our last Annual Convocation which required official action from me. I visited Meridian Sun Chapter at Nashua at their annual meeting, and installed the officers. I found the Chapter united and prosperous. The officers are mostly young men, but thoroughly versed in the duties of their several stations; surpassed, I think, by those of no other Chapter in this jurisdiction. I have often visited Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 11, and at the annual meeting installed the officers in public. That Chapter continues, as it has ever been, harmonious and flourishing. It could hardly be otherwise under the control of its present amiable chief. In December last, in company with Companion Wilcox, I visited Franklin Chapter. We spent a part of three days with them; installed the officers, and assisted in conferring the degrees on quite a large number of candidates. That chapter has been recently revived, but bids fair to become one of the most flourishing Chapters in the State. The truly Masonic spirit which seemed to characterize the intercourse between the Companions was highly gratifying. The other Chapters I have not had the pleasure to visit, but I doubt not their returns to-day will give abundant assurance of their increasing prosperity.

In October last I received a petition from the constitutional number of Royal Arch Masons in Keene and its vicinity, asking that the Charter of Cheshire Chapter might be revived and restored; which I did, in accordance with the resolution of this Grand Chapter authorizing me to do so, and appointed M. E. Past Grand High Priest, John J. Prentiss, a Special Deputy to install the officers of said Chapter; and I trust a favorable account will be received from them to-day.

And now, Companions, as my official relation with this Grand

Chapter is about to close, I should do violence to my own feelings, and injustice to the members of this Grand Body, did I not express to you the gratitude I feel for the uniform kindness and courtesy which have always been extended to me. It is eight years since I became a member of this Grand Chapter, and not only here, but in all my official intercourse with the subordinate Chapters I have received far more consideration than my merits have deserved, the grateful remembrance of which I shall carry with me while memory retains the recollection of any earthly event.

T. T. ABBOT.

The Grand High Priest announced the following Standing Committees :

Committee on Chapters.—Comps. Abel Hutchins and Thomas E. Hatch.

Committee on Finance.—Comps. Thomas Pearson and John R. Holbrook.

On motion of Comp. Hubbard, the proposed amendment to Article 18 of the General Regulations, made by Comp. Christie, which was in the following words, "And be accompanied with satisfactory evidence that the Candidate is a member, in good standing, of a regular Lodge of Master Masons," was taken up, when, on motion of Comp. Chase, it was voted that the same be indefinitely postponed.

The proposed amendment to Article 21 of the General Regulations, which was in the following words, "And who is not a member, in good standing, of a regular Lodge of Master Masons. Should any Companion, a member of a Chapter under this jurisdiction, cease to be a member of a Lodge of Master Masons, the Chapter to which he belongs shall determine whether his membership in such Chapter shall continue, or otherwise," was taken up, when, on motion of Comp. Rollins, the same was indefinitely postponed.

The Committee on Credentials made farther report that the following Members and Visiting Companions

were present, and entitled to seats in this Grand Chapter: viz.,

M. E. John Knowlton, } *Past Grand High Priests.*
 M. E. John J. Prentiss, }
 Richard N. Ross, *Grand Royal Arch Captain.*
 Asa A. Balch, *Grand Master of First V.*
 Samuel M. Wilcox, *G. M. of Second V.*
 John R. Holbrook, *G. M. of Third V.*

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 3.
 John R. Holbrook, *King.*

BELKNAP CHAPTER, No. 8.
 Richard N. Ross, *High Priest* ;
 John B. Bruce, *Proxy for King* ;
 Eli Wentworth, *Scribe.*

Visitors :

Henry O. Kent, George C. Williams, Lancaster ; J. Everett Sargent, Wentworth ; John Dame, Concord.

The time assigned for the choice of Grand Officers having arrived, proceeded to the election, when, on sorting and counting the ballots, the following Companions were declared duly elected :

Comp. Moses Paul, Dover, *M. E. Grand High Priest.*
 Comp. George H. Hubbard, Manchester, *E. Deputy Grand High Priest.*
 Comp. Jonas Livingston, Claremont, *E. Grand King.*
 Comp. Samuel M. Wilcox, Exeter, *E. Grand Scribe.*
 Comp. E. W. Harrington, Manchester, *E. Grand Treasurer.*
 Comp. Horace Chase, Hopkinton, *E. Grand Secretary.*
 Comp. Solomon Laws, *E. Grand Chaplain.*

Comp. Thomas Pearson, Nashua, *E. Grand Captain of the Host*.

Comp. Hubbard offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the remaining Officers of the last year be continued in office until others shall be appointed and installed by the Grand High Priest elect.

On motion of Comp. Pearson—

Voted, That the M. E. Past Grand High Priest, John Knowlton, be authorized to install the M. E. Grand High Priest elect at his earliest convenience, and make report of his doings to the Grand Secretary.

Those of the Grand Officers elect who were present were duly installed by Comp. T. T. Abbot, the presiding M. E. Grand High Priest.

Comp. Samuel M. Wilcox, as Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, made the following report, which, on motion of Comp. H. Chase, was accepted, ordered to be put on file, and printed with the proceedings of this Convocation.

REPORT

ON

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Most Excellent Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire :

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence, having carefully examined the proceedings of the several Grand Chapters furnished them by the Grand Secretary, beg leave to submit the following

REPORT :

We have supposed that a discussion of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter should properly come before you in a report from your delegates, but, having given them a somewhat extended examination, we feel compelled to say that we have risen from the perusal with the impression upon our minds that its season of usefulness and vigor has passed. As is well known, the change in its organization has been radical; and it has, as it would seem, completely shorn itself of the little power for good or ill which the dissensions and controversies of the last few years have left it, and we fear that it will prove, like some of the modern mantel-clocks, more ornamental than useful. But while such views impress themselves upon us—and they are not lessened by reviewing the proceedings of several of the Grand Chapters whose Convocations have been held since the meeting of the General Grand

Chapter—we by no means desire hastily to prejudge its future, or to refuse it a proper meed of praise, if its future workings shall entitle it thereto.

The discussion of the amendments to the G. G. Constitution occupied most of the session. The secession of the G. Chapters of North-Carolina and Kentucky, and the Michigan difficulty, were made the subject of a concise report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence; and, as the Committee in the latter case have vindicated the law, and the G. G. Chapter in their final action have thrown wide open the door of conciliation, we may hope that the wordy war will now cease. We doubt much if this “piece of work” will bear inspection, but we are willing, *pro hac vice*, to call it square for the sake of peace and harmony.

The clothing of a Royal Arch Mason is defined by the G. G. Constitution to be as follows :

“1st. A white lambskin apron (for which cotton or linen can not be substituted), square in form, lined with scarlet silk, and with a narrow edging of scarlet, without any device whatever on the body, but with a triple Taw cross within a triangle, and that within a circle on the flap.

2d. Where no official collar is worn, a collar of scarlet velvet coming to a point in front, edged with narrow gold lace, from which may be suspended a triple interlaced triangle of gold or yellow metal as a jewel.”

MAINE.

We have the proceedings of the G. Chapter of Maine at their Annual Convocation in May, 1859. The address of the G. H. Priest is well written, and every way worthy of the commendation given it by the Committee on the Reports of Grand Officers, who say :

“The address of our M. E. G. H. Priest presents a truly flattering account of the condition of the Royal Art in our jurisdiction. We have no doubt much of this state of peace and prosperity has resulted from his unwearied zeal in promoting and advancing the cause of Royal Arch Masonry; and as he now

retires from the eminent position he has adorned by his presence and his labors, he is entitled to the warmest regards of this M. E. Grand Body."

As a mark of the harmony in that jurisdiction we may note that the Standing Committee on Grievances and Appeals reported that no business had been presented for their consideration.

The Report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is mainly devoted to matters pertaining to the G. G. Chapter; and, while we do not incline to agree with all his positions, we think it is full of the true Masonic spirit, and, had we such a Pearl among us, we should undoubtedly esteem it as our Companions of Maine do, a *Pearl* of price.

Full returns were received from nine of the ten Chapters, showing 538 members, 37 exaltations, 11 deaths, and, as we understand it, 73 unaffiliated Royal Arch Masons within the jurisdiction; a matter which ought not to have been passed over without notice. M. E. MOSES DODGE was elected G. H. Priest; E. Ira Berry, G. Secretary; both of Portland.

VERMONT.

The G. Chapter of Vermont met at Bennington August 11, 1859. From the address of the G. H. Priest we extract the following, as to the condition of the Royal Art in that jurisdiction:

"There are now twelve Chapters at labor under the jurisdiction of this G. Chapter; and, from their returns in the hands of the G. Secretary, you will see they are doing all the business they ought, and adding to their numbers many of the best citizens in the State, and all (so far as I am informed) at work with perfect unanimity; no discord or contention is heard among them, 'except that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.' The only sound I hear from them is that sweet sound of their many trowels, spreading the

cement of brotherly love and affection, which, like the harp of many strings when in perfect tune, the greater the noise, the sweeter will be the melody."

We also learn from the same source that during the year the G. H. Priest received a letter from a Companion in another State, proposing to send a Lecturer into the State to instruct the subordinate Chapters in the work, to which he answered, with great propriety, that they had a Grand Lecturer of thirty or forty years' experience who had the original lectures as taught by Thomas Smith Webb, who was ready and willing to instruct them, and he could not permit any person from abroad to go into the Chapters as a teacher. He farther says :

"I believe our worthy G. Lecturer has the Lectures *very correct*, as taught by Webb, which I think is admitted to be the only true and correct mode of work."

And we believe the tendency in the Chapters and Craft Lodges is to return to the simplicity of the Webb work. He farther says :

"We should be very careful to keep out all foreign words or matter from our work, even although the language or acts may be rhetorical or beautiful, and in all instances where it has crept in lop the excrescent part. I have frequently been much pained, both in the Chapter and Craft Lodges, to witness in our work and ceremonies some very fascinating show and language, which have crept into our Lodges and Chapters, and which, from their beauty and attraction, are apt to obtain favor, which are all mushrooms of yesterday, and should not be countenanced by any presiding officer or body of Masons. We very justly boast of the antiquity of our Order and its ceremonies, and should be extremely careful lest this ornamental shrubbery should cover up and obliterate some of our most ancient and valuable landmarks."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-five G. Chapters, but deals more with the G. G. Chapter than we desire to do at this time. During the session the Charter of one Chapter was restored, making in all

thirteen Chapters. M. E. T. H. CAMPBELL, St. Albans, G. H. Priest; E. J. B. Hollenbeck, Burlington, G. Secretary.

CONNECTICUT.

The G. Chapter of Connecticut met May 10, 1859. Reports from 21 Chapters show 1670 members, 155 exaltations, 11 deaths, and 3 expulsions. The address of the G. H. Priest represents the Order in a favorable condition throughout the jurisdiction. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-two G. Chapters, and we give the result of their labors in their own words :

"In almost every jurisdiction from which we have received fraternal greetings, it is evident that Royal Arch Masonry continues to progress by a healthy growth, and that the interests of the Institution were never more carefully guarded. It is indeed true that, in reference to the mere machinery of Masonic government, our respected Companions have not all been able to see 'eye to eye,' but, so far as any Masonic principle is involved, your Committee have scarcely discovered that the least disagreement exists among the various members of our widespread Companionship."

Speaking of the right of visit, the Committee say :

"Our doctrine is, that no man has a right to be a Mason in Connecticut who is unworthy of a seat in any Lodge or Chapter in California, and so all the world over. Nor has universal Masonry any right to retain within the pale of its membership one who is unworthy of a participation in all its rights and benefits. These are our settled convictions; and, if they are well founded, it follows that no Lodge or Chapter has a right to exclude a worthy brother or Companion from any of its Masonic gatherings."

We cordially agree with Comp. Storer in his "doctrine," but we most emphatically deny his conclusion. But our views upon this question will be indicated in another place. SAMUEL TRIPP, of East-Hartford, G. H. Priest; Eliphalet G. Storer, New-Haven, G. Secretary.

NEW-YORK.

The G. Chapter of New-York convened February 1, 5859. The address of the G. H. Priest covers some five pages of closely printed matter, and is devoted mainly to local matters. It shows the general state of the Royal Craft to be very satisfactory. Speaking of his extensive correspondence, he says :

“We are very much in want of a well digested code of Masonic jurisprudence, adapted to the discipline and government of Chapters of Royal Arch Masons. It would save much labor to a presiding officer, who is called upon daily to answer questions and give decisions upon points with which every presiding officer of a Chapter should be familiar.”

We hope some of our Companions who have the time and the ability—and it will need no little of both—will act upon this suggestion, and do what he may to supply this want. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence ably reviews the proceedings of twenty-four G. Chapters. From the report of the Committee on Royal Arch Jurisprudence we gather the following conclusions :

1. A non-affiliated Royal Arch Mason is subject to the jurisdiction of the Chapter within whose limits he resides, and such Chapter has the right to entertain charges and try him for any offense against our laws.

2. While a Companion is a member in fact of one Chapter, no other Chapter has jurisdiction over him, although residing within the limits of such other Chapter, but he is amenable alone to the discipline of the Chapter of which he is a member.

3. A Companion has a right to demand a ballot upon each Degree, although the candidate has been voted to receive all the Degrees of the Chapter while opened in the Royal Arch Degree, and when such separate ballot is demanded, it is the duty of the Chapter to comply with the demand.

4. All ballots for advancement of candidates must be had at a regular stated Convocation of the Chapter ; and, when a ballot is called for at a Special Convocation, the ballot should be had at the next stated Convocation thereafter, unless unavoidable circumstances prevent.

5. It is within the powers of the G. H. Priest to order elections to fill vacancies in Chapter offices, when he shall deem it expe-

dient. And the Committee say: "The power seems to us to be inseparably connected with a proper discharge of executive duties. Of the expediency of its exercise he must be the sole judge, as it is impossible to lay down any general rules upon the subject; and it should, therefore, be left to his sound discretion."

6. No Chapter can be legally opened without the sanction and presence of its warrant, and the Council of the Chapter, in the succession of rank, are the only legal custodians of such warrant.

7. That the true construction of section 10, article 1, of the G. G. Constitution, makes its provisions applicable only to Chapters under the immediate jurisdiction of the G. G. Chapter.

The reports show 87 Chapters, 3,711 members, 567 exaltations. M. E. JAMES M. AUSTIN, New-York, G. H. Priest; E. John O. Cole, Albany, G. Secretary.

NEW-JERSEY.

From New-Jersey we have the proceedings of 1858 and 1859; A. I. 2388-9. Comp. Daggett, G. H. Priest, gives us an excellent address, some parts of which are worthy of being written in letters of gold upon the walls of every Chapter. He says:

"The province of the G. Chapter, if I may be allowed the expression, is rather to guard and support the Chapters already in existence, than by an undue increase of subordinates to jeopardize the whole. Our emulation is as to who shall best work and agree, and not as to the mere increase of numbers. The desire for increase in membership is one of the most natural in the world; but we should recollect that, unless we progress in knowledge of the art in the same ratio as we enlarge our numerical proportions, we can be of no real service to Royal Arch Masonry, and must inevitably fall behind those of our Companions who labor rather to understand our art than simply to enlarge its jurisdiction. If there be any one evil we should guard against more than another, it is this besetting sin of the Masonic Institution of the present day—too great haste. 'Make haste slowly' should be engraven on the doors of our Temple, and present in the thoughts of every zealous Companion. * * * * *

The solemn and impressive ceremonies of Royal Arch Masonry should never be lightly passed through. The impression made upon the candidate should awaken no thought in his mind but that of serious admiration. That such an effect may be produced, every officer should not only possess a thorough knowledge of the ritual, but also an understanding of the lofty morality he is inculcating—his heart should be in the work, and then the

neophyte will prove a credit to his instructor. It is not sufficient for this purpose that the H. Priest should be well qualified; for, if he stand alone, the details of the work, without which the general harmony is destroyed, will be lost. * * * * *

Permit me also to say to the Companions throughout the jurisdiction, that, when they have found officers skilled and competent, they be slow in removing them for the mere sake of change, or the gratification of mere ambition. Rotation in office may answer the necessities of mere politicians, but the words should never be pronounced, nor the idea entertained, within the body of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons."

In this connection we may as well say that our New-Jersey Companions seem determined to start right, and they have set an example which we are now in a good condition, and, we hope, will be ready to follow; for, by a provision in their by-laws, it is provided that no Chapter shall receive a warrant from this G. Chapter until the officers named in said warrant shall exemplify, to the satisfaction of the G. Chapter and officers, their capacity to perform the duties they are thus to assume. They have evidently set their mark high, and we bid them a hearty God speed. W. W. GOODWIN, Burlington, G. H. Priest; John Wolverton, Trenton, G. Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Special Session, May 12, 1859; Regular Session, November 14, 1859.

The proceedings of this G. Chapter are mainly of local interest. It appears that, by a regulation of the G. Chapter, no H. Priest could be installed and placed at the head of a Chapter, unless he had been duly anointed a H. Priest by a regular Council of H. Priests. This rule soon brought about the difficulty which might reasonably have been expected. A Chapter elected a H. Priest, and the Council rejected his application for the necessary Degree. The G. H. Priest

called together a sufficient number of H. Priests, opened a Council, and conferred the Degree; whereupon a conflict of jurisdiction arose, and the G. Chapter very sensibly settled the matter by abolishing the rule.

We find returns from eighteen Chapters; but, as they give us no figures or results, and we have not such a thirst for the knowledge, nor the time needful to obtain it, by sitting down and counting the names, the number of members, and the exaltations during the year must remain a myth. We find many other G. Chapters equally chary of this kind of information, and we commend them to the attention of Comp. Hartley, of California. JAMES GOZZLER, Washington, D. C., G. H. Priest; Joseph Robinson, Baltimore, G. Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

Session December 15, A. I. 2389. We find no address from the G. H. Priest, or report from the Committee on Foreign Correspondence. The proceedings are very briefly reported.

The Grand Chapter resolved "that every Companion who is a member of a Royal Arch Chapter shall not and ought not to be excluded from his membership in the Chapter simply because he is not an affiliated Mason;" but, unless we have mistaken our reading, the weight of Masonic authority points to the reverse conclusion.

The G. Secretary acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters. Charters were granted to two new Chapters.

The returns from 24 Chapters show 1070 members; 12 make no returns, and 2 are marked extinct. POW-HATAN B. STARKE, Charles City, C. H., G. H. Priest; John Dove, Richmond, G. Secretary.

NORTH-CAROLINA.

Convocation June 6, A. I. 2389. The proceedings of this G. Chapter came to us in a very handsomely printed book of forty-eight pages. There was no address from the G. H. Priest, and the proceedings were mostly of local interest only. A committee, assisted by M. E. Comp. Mackey, of South-Carolina, exemplified the work upon the several Degrees, which was adopted by the G. Chapter.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence was brief, and principally devoted to the G. G. Chapter. After reading it, we could heartily indorse the concluding remark: "We regret that our minds did not turn to the more agreeable points presenting themselves on every side."

Out of the thirty-one Chapters in this jurisdiction, but eight were represented in the G. Chapter, as appears by the report of the Committee on Credentials, and twelve make no returns. It certainly looks as though the home machinery was as much out of order, as they contend is the G. G. Chapter, although it may be, and we hope it is, accidental. If not, we may cite the case of the Ephraimites, who were cured of greater irregularities by a little wholesome discipline.

SOUTH-CAROLINA.

Convocation February 15, A. L. 5859. No report and no Committee on Foreign Correspondence. The address of the M. E. G. H. Priest, our well known Comp. Mackey, briefly touches upon the matters of interest which have occurred in the different Grand Bodies. The session was made the occasion of the presentation of a massive silver pitcher, appropriately ornamented, to Comp. Mackey, by the G. Chapter; a

testimonial which would have been altogether too *massive* to be useful, had all those who have been benefited by his labors, but contributed their "mite," and we have no doubt they would cheerfully have done so, if they had had the opportunity.

The Committee on Grievances say: "So far as individual construction is concerned, the Committee are unanimous in believing that no point of the O. B. N. of the R. A., or of the ancient principles, would prohibit the exaltation of one applicant for the Degree, assisted by two substitutes, that is to say, two already in possession of its doctrines and mysteries, but in a position of inquiry, rehearsing their information." Such is the construction, as we understand it, generally adopted, and our individual opinion is, that it would do no harm if very many of those who profess to be in possession of the mysteries were oftener put in a "position of inquiry."

Returns of 14 Chapters show 372 members, 52 exaltations; 5 Chapters make no returns. Three new charters were granted during the session. Comp. **MACKEY** was reelected G. H. Priest, and Comp. **Ebenezer Thayer**, of Charlestown, G. Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

Convocation January 10, 1859. The proceedings of this G. Chapter come to us in a well-printed pamphlet of 104 pages. The address of Comp. **COFFINBERRY**, G. H. Priest, is well worthy the perusal of every Companion. In regard to the Royal Craft under his jurisdiction he says:

"The last year has been one of peace and harmony in our jurisdiction. No appeals or complaints have been presented to me in my official capacity. The Royal Art has prospered well in all its sublime workings. No vexed or vexatious questions

have arisen in our intercourse with sister jurisdictions. No voice of dissatisfaction has come up from the workmen, to interrupt or mar the general harmony, and all of our undertakings have been crowned with success."

Three Dispensations for new Chapters were granted during the year.

Were we looking for the eloquent and beautiful, we should draw largely from this address, but our search is rather for the practical than the beautiful. One farther extract, however, we must make :

"In all the history of Masonry in this Grand Jurisdiction, no circumstance has communicated more gratifying sensations to my mind, than that of opening a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons away up in the snowy regions of Lake Superior. There, where so recently howled an unbroken wilderness, the Ark of the Covenant is safely seated ; in the light which emanates from its holy candlesticks, and the incense which ascends from its holy vessels, is commemorated the magnanimity of the Persian monarch, and the delivery from servile captivity of the chosen people of the Most High God."

There is a long report from the Committee in relation to the G. G. Chapter, and we may hope that for the future our Michigan Companions, and all others who have written *pro* and *con*, sometimes we fear with more warmth than discretion, will suffer the matter to pass into oblivion.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-two G. Chapters, and from it we select the following points decided :

1. When a Chapter has been properly opened by the presence of at least nine regular R. A. Masons, its business may be continued in the sound discretion of the presiding officer, and the Chapter closed with a less number than nine present.

2. The G. H. Priest or D. G. H. Priest have no power to grant Dispensations to confer the Degrees upon candidates who have not passed through the forms of a petition duly presented at a regular Convocation, and lying over for the constitutional period.

So held by the G. Chapter of New-York. Both

these matters, however, will be further discussed in another part of this report.

3. It is a standing regulation of the G. Chapters of Maine, Wisconsin, and Michigan, that in a Lodge of Mark, Past, and M. E. Masters no transactions shall be had except such as shall pertain to the Work and Lectures of those Degrees. That all matters of business shall be transacted in the Chapter when open upon the R. A. Degree.

And such we believe to be the well established Masonic law, without any special regulation in regard to the matter.

4. A Mark, Past, or M. E. Master's Lodge may be opened for the transaction of any business properly belonging to those Lodges, without the opening of the R. A. Degree.

Returns of 21 Chapters show 993 members and 164 exaltations during the year. Comp. COFFINBERRY was reelected G. H. Priest, and Comp. R. S. Cheney, of Jackson, G. Secretary.

INDIANA.

Convocation May 17, A. I. 2389. We do not find much of general interest in the proceedings. The G. H. Priest devotes quite a large portion of his address to the well-worn subject of the G. G. Chapter. We learn, however, that the Craft are in a good condition, with a slow but healthy growth. Forty-two Chapters show 1391 members and 168 exaltations for the year. Comp. DANIEL K. HAYS, Attica, G. H. Priest; Comp. Francis King, Indianapolis, G. Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

Convocation September 30, A. I. 2389. From the address of the G. H. Priest we learn that Dispensations were issued for ten new Chapters during the year. The address is mainly devoted to the local difficulty

with Horeb Chapter, and in regard to the action of the G. G. Chapter at its late session. He says :

"I can not venerate the G. G. Chapter, because not alone that it is an anomaly in Free-masonry, but also because there does not exist the least necessity for such an organization. Let the State G. Chapters exercise the same relative powers as do the Grand Lodges, and we may then look for the same degree of union which so happily exists among those bodies at the present time."

And on the whole we should conclude that his hope of its future usefulness was somewhat "obscured." He seems to think, however, that in producing uniformity of work it might be useful, and so far its edicts ought to be supreme and imperative. If, however, we may believe Comp. Tucker of Vermont, and the G. Chapter of New-York, and many Companions in this section personally known to us, the G. G. Chapter did in 1850, ten years ago, adopt a specific mode of work, and appointed the lamented Lovell G. G. Lecturer to disseminate it. Comp. Tucker says: "If the committee who reported it, and the members of the G. G. Chapter who, after its full exemplification before them, sanctioned it, did not consist of some of the most intelligent R. A. Masons in the United States, I am at a loss to conceive where intelligence in R. A. Masonry is to be looked for." And yet the subject of uniformity of work is as much a vexed question as ever. If the G. G. Chapter could not enforce its work then, how can it now, when it has shorn itself of the little power it had. If that be the only use of the G. G. Chapter, it seems to us far too expensive a whistle for our New-England notions of thrift. We do not claim a long experience in Masonry, but we do not quite understand all this hue and cry about "uniformity of work." We have no G. G. Lodge, and yet

we hear of no particular difficulty in a Master Mason making himself known, whether he received light in Maine or California, Florida or Wisconsin, or any intermediate point, and, so far as our knowledge or observation extends, the variations are but slight and verbal. Now, is this all different in the Chapter Degrees? If it is, our experience and observation is so limited we have not heard of it.

From the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence we gather the following items :

1. The right to visit is an absolute right; subject, however, to all the prerogatives and powers conferred upon the presiding officer by the ancient constitutions and the usages of the Order, and provided the visitor is an affiliated Mason in good standing.

So held by Indiana, Wisconsin, Kentucky, California, and others. We understand this to go this far : That any brother or Companion, in good standing, has the right to apply for admission into any regular Masonic body, and that admission ought not to be denied him except upon very grave reasons; but that such Masonic body, for grave and sufficient reasons, has the right to exclude such applicant; and that we understand to be the true construction of the right to visit.

2. Before suspension for non-payment of dues, the Companion must have notice of his indebtedness, and be required to appear at a regular Convocation, and show cause why he should not be suspended; and when so suspended, it is a suspension from all the rights and benefits of R. A. Masonry.

3. Illinois and Indiana hold that a Companion can not be a member of a Chapter in that jurisdiction, and at the same time be a citizen of another State.

4. The Chapter Degrees can not be conferred upon a non-affiliated Master Mason.

So held in Vermont, Virginia, Illinois, and Indiana.

5. Missouri holds that the practice of opening and calling off Chapters as highly improper, and contrary to the ancient customs and usages of R. A. Masonry.

We understand it to be the conceded Masonic law, that neither Chapter nor Lodge can call off, or adjourn from one day to another, although either may do so to another hour of the same day.

6. Ohio decides that if a R. A. Mason holds a demit more than twelve months without applying to some Chapter for admission, he shall be held suspended from all the rights and privileges of a R. A. Mason.

The R. A. aprons, recommended by the G. G. Chapter, were adopted. Returns from 57 Chapters show 1752 members and 355 exaltations for the year. Comp. NELSON D. ELLWOOD, Joliette, G. H. Priest; Comp. H. G. Reynolds, Springfield, G. Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

Convocation October 17, 1859. The address of the G. H. Priest is brief but comprehensive. The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty-two Grand Chapters, and we cordially concur with them in the following opinion:

“It is impossible to peruse so much good sentiment and valuable statistical matter without personal improvement to the reader. We feel the better, both morally and intellectually, after the task. There is every thing to encourage one to perseverance in the sublime work of R. A. Masonry, when we find so many of the wisest, the most intelligent, and the most elevated of the Craft engaged devotedly in the same pursuits.”

The G. Chapter affirms its entire and permanent separation from the G. G. Chapter, notwithstanding the changes and alterations in its organization at its last session. Charters were granted to four Chapters, U. D., and Dispensations granted or continued to three. Returns from 60 of the 76 Chapters show 1890 members and 220 exaltations for the year. Comp. THOMAS TODD, Shelbyville, G. H. Priest; Comp. Philip Swigert, Frankfort, G. Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

Convocation November 3, 1859. The address of the G. H. Priest is principally devoted to the proceedings and prospects of the G. G. Chapter.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of eighteen G. Chapters, our own among the number. In speaking of that portion of the address of our M. E. G. H. Priest, referring to the practice of newly exalted Companions pressing themselves into the higher orders of Masonry without becoming familiar with the Chapter Degrees, the Committee say :

“We would be pleased to incorporate with this review the whole of his remarks upon this subject, but time and space forbid ; but we desire to record our hearty concurrence with the sentiments of the G. H. Priest on this subject, and our condemnation of the practice of making the Chapter ‘an undesirable bridge leading from the Lodge to the encampment.’”

A portion of the report is devoted to the statement of decisions of Masonic law, and this was referred to the Committee on Masonic law and usage, to present by resolution such conclusions thereupon, for the action of the G. Chapter, as ought for the benefit of the Craft to be adopted. The substance of the resolutions presented by them and adopted by the G. Chapter is as follows :

1. The word officer in article 1, section 10, of the G. G. Constitution, providing that, in the absence of an officer, the “officer” next in rank shall occupy his place, means a member of the Council only.

2. An R. A. Chapter can not be legally opened in the absence of all the first three officers, unless a Past H. Priest, R. or S., or a Past G. H. Priest, R. or S., be present to constitute the chief place in the Council.

3. Whenever there are not present nine regular R. A. Masons, there is no Chapter. If a Chapter has regularly opened with that number and after one withdraws, reducing the number present below nine, the assemblage is no longer a Chapter, and

can not be closed as a Chapter ; and, if the number is not made good, the members can only disperse, and there will be no Chapter in session until it is again regularly opened.

This is the reverse of the doctrine laid down by the G. Chapter of New-York, and will be hereafter commented upon.

4. Under no circumstances can a Chapter call off or adjourn to another day or evening.

5. An R. A. Mason can not sit in a Chapter, or converse upon the secrets of R. A. Masonry, with a Companion who stands suspended or expelled from the benefits of Masonry by a Blue Lodge, for non-payment of dues, any more than if the expulsion or suspension were for any other cause.

6. The ballot, on the application of a candidate for admission to the mysteries of R. A. Masonry, is governed by the same rules as in Blue Masonry. It must be unanimous and secret ; and the right of casting a black ball without question from any quarter is perfect and absolute.

7. When a candidate is rejected at any stage of his progress, there can be no reconsideration of the ballot, but the applicant must petition again *de novo*, and his application be dealt with as an original petition.

8. A demit may be granted by a majority vote at any stated meeting, if the Companion applying therefor be not under charges or in arrears, but no Companion can claim a demit as a right without good reason therefor assigned satisfactory to the Chapter.

We think that good Masonic writers have laid down the law to be that a brother or Companion is entitled to a demit as a matter of right.

9. When it is known to a Companion that an absent brother would, if present, vote against the application of any one for the Degrees or for affiliation, he should procure the ballot to be postponed, or himself vote as the absent Companion would do. Especially is it contrary to the true spirit of Masonry to take advantage of the absence of a Companion, to force him into association with one against whom he would vote.

With the last half of this we agree, but from the first we dissent. We can perhaps imagine a case where we should deem it our duty to act as laid down in the rule, but the instances would be of very rare occurrence. Ordinarily, if a Companion does not feel inter-

est enough in the matter to attend the Chapter and act for himself, we should not feel a very loud call to interrupt the regular business, or vote against our own personal convictions, on his account.

10. G. Chapters ought to be occasional and temporary bodies, and not corporations with perpetuity of existence; and that life membership of Past Grand Officers ought to be abolished.

We really do not see the point in this. We expect an anti-corporation fever in politics once in awhile, but do not think it need be introduced into Masonry.

11. G. Chapters have only such powers as are specially entrusted to them by the Constitution expressly, or by natural and reasonable construction.

12. A G. H. Priest has only such powers as the Constitution confers upon him. He has no such inherent powers as by action and precedent belong to the Grand Master. That in the recess of the G. Chapter, he can exercise such powers only as the representative or *locum tenens* of the G. Chapter, for which the Constitution gives him warrant by special designation, or general investiture of the character of its representative.

13. That, according to Masonic usage and precedent, the D. G. H. Priest should be selected and appointed by the G. H. Priest, and not elected or appointed by the G. Chapter.

14. That the G. H. Priest may, by himself or Deputy, in a proper case grant a dispensation authorizing a particular Chapter to receive an application for admission to the mysteries of R. A. Masonry, refer it, and act and ballot upon it, and confer the Degrees without postponement to a subsequent meeting; but he has not the slightest power to authorize by dispensation the conferring of the Degrees by a particular Chapter without petition and reference thereof, favorable report of a committee, and unanimous consent by ballot; nor has he any powers whatever to make R. A. Masons at sight.

The Committee gave this subject a somewhat lengthy examination in their report, but we do not propose to do more than to refer to it. In the proceedings of the Grand Chapters of Maine, New-Jersey, and Kentucky it will be seen that they hold that the G. H. Priest may, by dispensation, authorize the degrees to be conferred. We understand that formerly the Chapter Degrees were a part of and appendant to the Blue

Lodges, and of course under the control of the Grand Lodge and Grand Master as much as the first three Degrees ; that in process of time the control of these Degrees was relinquished by the Grand Lodges, either by special or tacit agreement, and assumed by the bodies now called G. Chapters, at the head of which we have, instead of the Grand Master, a G. H. Priest ; that is, as to these degrees, the G. Chapter and G. H. Priest take the place of the G. Lodge and G. Master, with the same powers and privileges, and having the same control over the Degrees, as the others formerly had. Our theory is this : That the G. H. Priest now stands in the same position as to these Degrees that the G. Master formerly did, and that he has the same right to authorize the conferring of the Degrees by dispensation as the G. Master, who always makes the unanimous consent of the brethren present a condition precedent.

15. The G. H. Priest has no power to heal a clandestine R. A. Mason, or one irregularly made such.

16. That it is not competent for a G. Chapter to decide who is or who is not qualified to receive the order of High Priesthood.

17. A Chapter can not suspend or expel a Companion from the benefits of R. A. Masonry for the mere non-payment of dues unaccompanied by contempt, misfeasance, or malfeasance, but only from membership, and that only upon due notice to the delinquent, and opportunity to appear and show cause against such judgment.

18. Suspension of an R. A. Mason from membership merely in a Blue Lodge for non-payment of dues does not suspend him from membership in the Chapter unless it is a constitutional provision that all Companions shall be members in good standing of a Master's Lodge.

The G. Chapter farther decided that a trial and acquittal of an R. A. Mason by a Blue Lodge, though great weight ought to be given it, and there ought to be strong ground to believe that judgment erroneous, is no bar to a trial in the Chapter for the same

offense whether new testimony have or have not been obtained, the Chapter not being bound to accept that judgment as conclusive.

Fourteen Chapters return 417 members, 55 exaltations, 10 admissions, 16 deaths, 39 demissions, 23 unaffiliated; 7 Chapters making no returns. .Comp. T. D. MERRICK, Little Rock, G. H. Priest; Comp. John H. Newbern, Little Rock, G. Secretary.

ALABAMA.

Convocation December 6, 1859. Forty-six Chapters represented. Returns from 50 Chapters show 1,578 members; 16 Chapters are extinct, and 3 make no returns. In the absence of the G. H. Priest, the D. G. H. Priest gave a somewhat lengthy but very readable address.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of twenty G. Chapters, our own among the number; and, after quoting that part of our M. E. H. Priest's address to which our Arkansas friends refer, but with a different view, they say:

"We trust the number of Masons in New-Hampshire can not be large who measure the utility of the Degrees in Masonry by the splendor of the regalia which may be authorized; but, if the evil can be remedied by the purchase of new badges and aprons, we hope the remedy will be applied. We appreciate the candor of the G. H. Priest in stating that there is such a number of R. A. Masons in his jurisdiction who apparently are

'Pleased with a rattle, tickled with a straw.'"

If any Companion likes this coat of the Alabama cut, it is at his service. Having never passed that "bridge," the writer of this makes no claim to it. For ourselves we are pleased with rattles in their place; and, if we have them, we want good ones—a rattle as

is a rattle. We plead guilty to a fair share of human nature in this rocky country, and we presume have as many of the foibles pertaining thereto as our friends down by the Gulf. If Comp. Torrey will come up here and make himself known to us, we will lend him all our rattles and show him all our straws, and send him home not only pleased but tickled so thoroughly that the sensation shall not leave him for a lifetime. Comp. S. A. M. Wood, Florence, G. H. Priest; Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, G. Secretary.

CALIFORNIA.

Convocation May 5, A. I. 2389. The address of the G. H. Priest is mainly devoted to local matters, but is well worth an attentive perusal.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is an able paper, from the pen of Comp. H. H. Hartley; and, if we had seen his exposition of the duties of such a committee, we should never have dared venture into our present position. Speaking of G. Chapters he says:

“Now we hold it to be the duty of each G. Chapter to publish to the Fraternity at large a full, faithful, and complete record of its condition and proceedings; and that the same should be disseminated among all the cotemporary Grand Bodies; and, farther, that it is not only its duty, but that of each individual R. A. Mason, when any Grand Masonic Body has transgressed its tenets, violated its duty, or infringed upon the rights of the Order at large, or of any Masonic body in particular, respectfully, and in a proper and constitutional manner, to attract attention to the error, with a view to its speedy eradication. This course, studiously and honestly carried out, we submit would be a safe ground of inestimable utility to the Order, and would materially aid in promoting harmony and concert of action throughout the length and breadth of our Masonic union.”

The report reviews the proceedings of all the G. Chapters but six. Speaking of all the Degrees being

conferred upon a candidate at the session of the G Chapter of Arkansas, he says :

“Were this always adopted, it would tend more to keep the work and ritual perfect than any thing else. Too much time is given to legislation; and the vital and more important duty of perfecting and preserving the ritual intact is passed over as unimportant and uninteresting.”

As to the right to open any of the Appendant Degrees without opening a Chapter, he says :

“It has always been the custom to practice this rule in this jurisdiction, and we hold it to be the true and correct one.”

We find the following points approved as good law :

1. That membership in a Chapter can not be withdrawn without the consent of the Chapter.

2. That the G. Chapter can not, by constituting a new Chapter, vacate membership in Chapters where the Companions originally belonged ; but the recommendation of a Chapter for a new one where a part or all of the petitioners are members of the Chapter so recommending, operates as a dismissal from it when the new Chapter is constituted.

We find the following commentary upon the points decided by the G. Chapter of New-York : viz.,

1. That when a Chapter has been opened with nine, its business may be continued with a less number.

2. That it is improper to call off to a future day without closing the Chapter.

3. That the G. or D. G. H. Priest has no power to grant a dispensation to confer the Degrees upon a candidate whose petition has not been regularly presented, referred, laid over, with a favorable report and ballot thereon.

4. That the G. or D. G. H. Priest has no power to heal a clandestine Mason.

“We dissent from the decision of the G. Chapter upon the first proposition. We hold it to be an essential requisite, that nine Companions should always be present when the Chapter is open and transacting business. How can it be a Chapter without the constitutional number. We understand such a body to be composed of ‘nine regular R. A. Masons, consisting of, &c.’ The H. Priest has always the power of preventing his Chapter from being deprived of the constitutional number, if they were

present at the opening. We are at a loss to discover the reasoning or authority on which this opinion is predicated, and believe it to be erroneous."

They concur in the second and fourth propositions, and in the third partially. They say as to the third :

"We hold that the G. H. Priest or D. G. H. Priest may, in case of exigency, grant a dispensation for a Chapter to receive a petition from an applicant for the Degrees, and ballot for him on the same evening ; but we do not think a dispensation could be granted authorizing the candidate to receive the Degrees without petition or election or both."

"Nearest Chapter" is defined to be "nearest by geographical measurement." Also held that when a petition has been received and referred to a committee, it can not be withdrawn, but must be reported upon and a ballot taken.

WISCONSIN.

Convocation February 1, A. I. 2390. The address of the G. H. Priest is mainly of local interest. He reports one charter surrendered, and five dispensations for new Chapters ; one of which was to supply the place of the one which surrendered its charter.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence briefly review the proceedings of twenty-two G. Chapters, our own among the number.

A resolution was passed welcoming the G. Chapter of Canada to the Royal Confederacy. The Committee on Jurisprudence report :

1. That a Chapter can suspend any of its officers, except the H. Priest, for non-payment of dues.
2. That a Chapter may be closed with a less number than nine, but no business can be transacted.
3. That one or more Companions may be substituted, in lieu of regular candidates, in cases of emergency, but the power should be exercised with caution, and not adopted as a general rule.
4. Officers of a regular Chapter, duly elected, installed, and proclaimed as such, must serve for the full term for which they were elected ; and it is not in the power of the Chapter, by amending its by-laws, to remove the officers first elected.

We submit, in regard to the second proposition, that, if the Chapter can be constitutionally closed, they may transact any other business as legitimately. We do not see, also, why a Chapter for good cause may not alter its by-laws, in a constitutional manner, even by changing the time of the annual meeting; although we are ready to admit that it would be an abuse of power to do this for the mere purpose of removing the existing officers:

Twenty-one Chapters show 593 members and 117 exaltations. Comp. ERASTUS LEWIS, Janesville, G. H. Priest; Comp. W. T. Palmer, Milwaukee, G. Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

Convocation October 10, A. I. 2389. The address of the G. H. Priest is brief but practical. Speaking of the prosperity of the Craft as predicated on a large increase of numbers, he says:

"I have long doubted whether a large increase of membership could be taken as an infallible evidence of general prosperity. In ancient times, the secrets of our Order were handed down through a select few, and these were chosen for their great zeal and fidelity to the cause. When a great many are flocking to our portals, and all is enthusiasm within, is there not great danger that some material may be introduced which is scarcely fit for the builder's use, and which can neither add strength or beauty to the edifice."

He speaks of some who gain admission with "the object of turning Masonry into a source of livelihood, by traveling from place to place, representing that they have met with some misfortune, or fallen among thieves by the way, and all they want is the loan of a small sum to enable them to get home, and when there they will remit the amount immediately. Their object attained, they leave with many expressions of gratitude, but you never hear from them more, only

that they called at the next place on the route, and did likewise." If we may be permitted the expression, we think we have seen that "elephant," and we fully appreciate the force of his conclusion that "it requires some thing above Masonry to make a gentleman of a loafer."

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence reviews the proceedings of eighteen G. Chapters, devoting eight pages of closely printed matter to the G. G. Chapter. ROBERT S. MOORE, Clarks-ville, G. H. Priest; Charles A. Fuller, Nashville, G. Secretary.

FLORIDA.

Convocation January 9, A. I. 2360. From the address of the G. H. Priest we conclude that, among the everglades at least, prophets are not without honor in their own country, for he makes strong claims for the fathers of Masonry in his jurisdiction. He says :

"Let me ask, aye, and earnestly request, of each young Companion, to learn and treasure the work of the old Companions of Florida. To them and you I say, recollect that oratory is not Masonry; that poetic imagery, fluency of language, scholarship, and ability to disclose the vaults of ancient mysteries are not of themselves Masonry. Be not then deceived by false teachers. To know what Masonry is, ask yourselves what was Masonry—for what it was, it must ever be, unless we are at fault."

Speaking of the old Masons, he says :

"They were men who loved the plain white leathern apron better than the satin-painted and gilded picture that is sent to the Craft, called the beautiful Master's apron, which is heralded by flaunting advertisements, and finds a ready sale because of its fine appearance. * * * There is but one apron known to ancient Masonry, 'the lambskin or white leathern apron,' and allow none other to be used in this jurisdiction. Compel, if necessary, the landmarks to be preserved, even if you have to undergo the displeasure of Masonic fops and milliners."

We would suggest to our Alabama Companion that, judging from the earnestness of this appeal, his own

latitude is not entirely free from the "rattle and straw" distemper, but that it develops itself as much under a Southern sky as he seems to think it does among our Northern frosts.

He proceeds to have a little plain talk with one of the subordinate Chapters, which, with a large membership, and of the best ability, was the poorest attended and did the poorest work of any that he visited. We refrain from quoting it, lest by chance we might be supposed to think it would apply in this jurisdiction.

Eight of the fifteen Chapters make returns, but no results are given. T. Y. HENRY, Quincy, G. H. Priest; J. B. Taylor, Tallahassee, G. Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

Convocation February 14, 1860. The address of the G. H. Priest covers about twenty pages, and contains a full review of the proceedings of the G. G. Chapter, which the G. H. Priest attended as a delegate. In regard to its action as to the clothing of an R. A. Mason, while agreeing as to the apron, he says :

"The second (or last) clause of the enactment we object to. We have never known the *requirement* of a collar to be worn in any Degree of Masonry prevalent in the United States, nor do we believe it proper. If adopted as a requirement for any excepting the officers, we have no hesitation in pronouncing it an innovation introduced from a foreign jurisdiction."

In speaking of the adoption of the first amendment to the G. G. Constitution, he says that the fourth clause in effect takes away all power from the G. G. Chapter, even of admonition or instruction ; and we cite it as going to show that your Committee are not alone in the opinion expressed in the commencement

of this report, derived from an examination of the amended constitution. He says :

“Your delegation believed that the National Body should possess some power, and believe so still. They were unwilling to make it a mere meeting of delegates for social talk, the interchange of opinions, and the election of officers, and they believe the Craft throughout the Union will in the end be with them. * * * As the Constitution now stands, with that fourth clause in it, the G. G. Chapter little more than has an existence, and we deemed it our duty to make it some thing more than a mere cipher.”

The Committee on Appeals and Grievances reported “that not a single case of grievance was before them to be acted upon, which report has been made every year since the organization of this G. Chapter, demonstrating clearly that R. A. Masonry in Louisiana is builded as a city that is compact, having Peace within her walls and Prosperity within her palaces.”

Nineteen of the 21 Chapters return 817 members and 132 exaltations, 20 admissions, 43 demissions, 26 deaths, and 8 suspensions. ABEL J. NORTHWOOD, Clinton, G. H. Priest; Samuel G. Risk, New-Orleans, G. Secretary.

We have thus endeavored to give a review of the proceedings which have been furnished us by the G. Secretary. Our aim has been to select such matter as would seem to be most useful; and in that view we have made pretty full citations of decisions upon Masonic law, as tending in some small degree to supply the deficiency mentioned by the G. H. Priest of New-York. The field in which we have been gleaning is new to the writer of this report, and we have found the task no light one; but we submit the results with full confidence that those who have themselves traveled this, to the novitiate, rough and rugged path, will

visit our many errors and shortcomings with no very heavy condemnation. Had we time to retrace our steps, and con the field over again, we should undoubtedly find it divested of many of its difficulties, and most likely find many valuable items which, if discovered and brought to light, would be of essential service to the Craft; but the six days assigned for our labor are passed, and we submit our "piece of work" for inspection, only regretting our inability to impart but a small portion of the benefit which we have ourselves received.

SAMUEL M. WILCOX, *for the Committee.*

The Special Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of printing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter, made the following report:

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the subject of the publication of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, would respectfully report that the Grand Secretary is willing to enter into an arrangement with the Grand Chapter to publish five hundred copies of the proceedings from the first organization of the Grand Chapter up to and including the present Grand Convocation; he paying one half the net expense, and to have one half the whole number of copies to dispose of to such Chapters and Royal Arch Masons as choose to purchase of him; the Grand Chapter being bound not to dispose of any copies, except to its Officers and other Grand Chapters, until the copies in the hands of Comp. Chase shall be exhausted.

All which is respectfully submitted by

GEORGE H. HUBBARD, }
GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, } *Committee.*

Which report was accepted, and, on motion of Comp. Chase, ordered to lay on the table.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor till eight o'clock this evening.

EVENING SESSION. The Grand Chapter reassembled at eight o'clock in the evening, and was called to labor; and, after spending the whole evening session in the exemplification of the Work and Lectures on the Mark Master Mason's Degree, the Grand Chapter was called from labor till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

June 12, 1860.

The Grand Chapter reassembled at eight o'clock in the morning, and resumed labor.

On motion of Comp. Chase, the report of the Special Committee upon the subject of printing the proceedings was taken up, when Comp. Greenleaf Cummings offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure the printing of three hundred and fifty copies of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter from the first organization thereof up to and including the present Convocation, upon the following conditions: viz.,

That this Grand Chapter pay one half the expense for printing and binding said copies, and receive as their proportion one hundred copies of said proceedings; that the Grand Secretary pay the other half of the expense, receiving as a compensation for his labor and trouble the other two hundred and fifty copies; that one copy thereof be furnished by this Grand Chapter to all Grand Chapters in communication with this Grand Chapter, and to each subordinate Chapter under this jurisdiction, and that the remaining copies

be disposed of as the Grand Chapter, from time to time, may direct, no copy belonging to the Grand Chapter to be sold at any price.

Report of the Committee on Finance :

The Committee on Finance, having attended to their duty, ask leave to make the following report :

They find the Grand Treasurer chargeable as follows :

DR. To cash received of former Grand	
Treasurer, last Convocation,	\$190.70
To cash received of Grand Secretary,	116.00
Interest on same,	6.61
Cash received of Grand Secretary this day,	120.32
	<hr/>
	\$433.63
CR. By cash paid Grand Secretary,	
	\$42.75
By cash paid W. E. Webster,	4.00
By cash paid McFarland & Jenks,	112.64
	<hr/>
	159.39
Bills which the Committee recommend to be paid :	
Bill of Horace Chase,	47.68
Bill of W. E. Webster,	4.00
Bill of Morrill & Silsby,	1.50
	<hr/>
	53.18
	<hr/>
Amounting to the sum of	\$212.57
Leaving in the hands of the Grand Treasurer	<hr/>
a balance of	\$221.06

THOMAS PEARSON,	} Committee on
JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	
	} Finance.

Comp. A. H. Saunders offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter instruct the Subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction to dispense

conferring the P. M. Degree upon all candidates who have received the Degree from a convention of Past Masters as a necessary qualification to preside over a Symbolic Lodge, and that no deduction in the fee for the Capitular Degrees shall in any case be allowed.

Comp. Wilcox offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the M. E. G. H. Priest may, by himself or Deputy, in cases of emergency, grant a dispensation authorizing a Subordinate Chapter to receive an application for the Chapter Degrees, refer it, act and ballot upon it, and confer the Degrees without lying over fourteen days, or until the next regular meeting of the Chapter.

The question being taken on the passage of said resolution was decided in the negative ; so the resolution was not adopted.

Comp. Wilcox offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary reserve, out of the funds of the Grand Chapter in his hands, the sum of fifteen dollars, for contingent expenses appertaining to his office.

Comp. William H. Cummings offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to give information to the Grand Chapter of the State of Vermont, that a practice prevails in the Chapter working at Bradford, Vt., of conferring Degrees upon candidates residing in this State, and that we deem the practice in this instance not only a violation of Masonic law and courtesy, but doing an injury to the Chapter in whose jurisdiction those candidates reside.

Comp. H. Chase offered the following preamble and resolution, which was adopted unanimously :

Whereas Franklin Chapter, No. 5, on the 29th of November, 1859, conferred the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch upon the Hon. Jared W. Williams and E. R. Wilkins, contrary to the Grand Regulations of this Grand Chapter; and whereas this Grand Chapter is well satisfied that said Franklin Chapter acted inadvertently in so doing and without any intent or design to violate the Grand Regulations, therefore—

Resolved, That no censure can rest upon Franklin Chapter, and that our worthy Companions, Jared W. Williams and E. R. Wilkins, having acted in good faith in receiving those degrees, are liable to no censure therefor, and are hereby healed and acknowledged as regular Royal Arch Masons.

Report of the Committee on Chapters :

The Committee on Chapters report that returns have been made from the following Subordinate Chapters, showing the number of Exaltations and number of Members, as follows :

Name of Chapter.	No.	Exaltations.	Members.
Trinity Chapter,.....	2.....	3	66
Cheshire Chapter,.....	4.....	8.....	17
Franklin Chapter,.....	5.....	18.....	43
Webb Chapter,.....	6.....	11.....	82
Belknap Chapter,.....	8.....	9.....	119
Meridian Sun Chapter,...	9.....	9.....	42
Mount Horeb Chapter,...	11.....	20.....	114
	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 78	<hr/> 483

Washington Chapter, No. 3, has made no return.

Respectfully submitted,

THOS. E. HATCH, *for the Committee.*

Comp. Wilcox offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter are eminently due to our Past M. E. Grand High Priest, T. T. Abbot, for the ability and courtesy which have characterized his official career for the past three years, during which he has presided over this Grand Chapter, and for his great zeal and interest in the Royal Craft.

On motion of Comp. H. Chase—*Voted*, That the proceedings of this Grand Convocation be printed, in usual form, limiting the edition to 200 copies.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in due form.

A true record.

Attest : HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary.*

ADDRESS OF THE DEP. GRAND HIGH PRIEST :

GEORGE H. HUBBARD, Esq.,

Manchester, N. H.

ADDRESS OF GRAND SECRETARY :

HON. HORACE CHASE,

Hopkinton, N. H.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS. June, A. D. 1860.

NAMES.	NO.	LOCATION.	MEMBERS.	EXALTATIONS.	DUES.	HIGH PRIESTS.	SECRETARIES.
Trinity Chapter,.....	2	Concord,....	66	3	\$6.00	Josiah Stevens, Jr...	Edward Dow.
Washington Chapter,*...	3	Portsmouth,	54	8	16.00	Henry M. Streeter,...	Edward Farrar.
Cheshire Chapter,†.....	4	Keene,	17	18	36.00	Alonzo P. Carpenter,	Green'f Cummings.
Franklin Chapter,.....	5	Lisbon,.....	43	11	22.00	Jonas Livingston,...	S. F. Redfield.
Webb Chapter,.....	6	Claremont,...	88	9	18.00	Richard N. Ross,....	George Piper.
Belknap Chapter,.....	8	Dover,.....	119	9	18.00	Albert H. Saunders,	Wm. White.
Meridian Sun Chapter,...	9	Nashua,.....	42	20	40.00	Daniel C. Gould,....	S. B. Kidder.
Mount Horeb Chapter,...	11	Manchester, ..	113				
Number of Chapters,...	8		542	78	156.00		

* Return made to the Grand Secretary after the Grand Chapter closed.

† Cheshire Chapter became dormant and was revived, and its officers installed during the last year by order of the Grand High Priest.

**LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE SINCE
ITS FIRST ORGANIZATION IN 1819, AND THE TIME IN OFFICE.**

GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	DEP. GR. HIGH PRIEST.	GRAND KING.	GRAND SCRIBE.	GRAND SECRETARY.	Time in office.
John Harris,*	Thomas S. Bowles,	Henry Hutchinson,*	Broughton White,	Thomas W. Colby,*	1819
"	"	Broughton White,	Henry Hutchinson,	"	1820
Thomas S. Bowles,	John Prentiss,	Timothy Kenrick,	H. G. Harris,	"	1821
Jonathan Nye,*	James F. Dana,*	Samuel Cushman,*	Edward Dean,	"	1822
Thomas W. Colby,*	Alpheus Baker,	Daniel Bradford,	Nathan Bingham,	Timothy Kenrick,*	1823
Samuel Cushman,*	Artemas Rogers,	Thomas Beede,*	Godfrey Stevens,*	"	1824
"	"	"	Frederick A. Sumner,*	"	1825
Frederick A. Sumner*	Frederick A. Sumner,*	Joseph W. White,	Oliver Heaton,	Albe Cady,*	1826
"	Joseph E. White,	Oliver Heaton,	"	"	1827
"	Joseph W. White,	"	"	"	1828
Andrew Peirce,	Andrew Peirce,	Horace Chase,	B. L. Greenough,	"	1829
"	Horace Chase,	B. L. Greenough,	Wm. Boardman,	"	1830
Jonathan Nye,*	Artemas Rogers,	Robert Smith,*	Stephen S. Palmer,	"	1831
Robert Smith,*	Robert Smith,*	Calvin Benton,	B. L. Greenough,	"	1832
B. L. Greenough,	B. L. Greenough,	William Boardman,	Charles Lane,	"	1833
"	Lemuel L. Barker,*	Samuel Huntington,*	Caleb Wentworth,	"	1834
"	Samuel Huntington,*	Jonathan Nye,*	Charles Lane,	"	1835
Robert Smith,*	"	"	"	"	1836
Weare Tappan,	Weare Tappan,	Samuel Huntington,*	Abel Hutchins,*	"	1837
"	"	"	"	"	1838
Daniel Chase,*	Abel Hutchins,*	Daniel Chase,*	David Parker,*	"	1839
"	"	"	"	"	1840
"	"	David Parker,*	Philemon Tolles,	"	1841
David Parker,*	David Parker,*	"	"	"	1842
Philemon Tolles,	Philemon Tolles,*	Philemon Tolles,	John Christie,	"	1843
"	Philemon Tolles,	John Knowlton,	James Collins,	Hosea Fessenden,	1844
John Knowlton,	John Knowlton,	"	"	"	1845
"	"	James Collins,	John Christie,	"	1846
John Knowlton,	John Christie,	John Christie,	Horace Chase,	"	1847
"	John Christie,	Horace Chase,	Nicholas Fowler,*	"	1848

John Knowlton,	Hosea Fessenden,	John J. Prentiss,	Albert R. Hatch,	Horace Chase,	1849
John J. Prentiss,	Daniel Balch,	Albert R. Hatch,	William Carr,	"	1850
Daniel Balch,	Albert R. Hatch,	John Christie,	"	"	1851
Albert R. Hatch,	John Christie,	T. T. Abbot,	T. T. Abbot,	"	1852
"	"	"	Moses Paul,*	"	1853
John Christie,	T. T. Abbot,	Samuel Kelley,	Philemon Tolles,	"	1854
"	"	Moses Paul,*	Jeremiah F. Daniell,	"	1855
Theodore T. Abbot	Moses Paul,*	Jeremiah F. Daniell,	Geo. H. Hubbard,	"	1856
"	"	Geo. H. Hubbard,	Jonas Livingston,	"	1857
Moses Paul,*	Geo. H. Hubbard,	Jonas Livingston,	Richard N. Ross,	"	1858
				"	1859
				"	1860

* Dead.

NOTE. Companion Moses Paul was unanimously elected M. E. Grand High Priest in June, 1860, but died in July following, before being installed. The duties of Grand High Priest for the year will devolve on Comp. George H. Hubbard, E. Deputy Grand High Priest.

LIST OF GRAND CHAPTERS

In Communication with the Grand Chapter of New-Hampshire, with the Names and Residences of Grand High Priests and Grand Secretaries, as by last Journals received.

GRAND CHAPTERS.	GRAND HIGH PREST.	RESIDENCE.	GRAND SECRETARY.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama,.....	S. A. M. Wood,.....	Florence,.....	Daniel Sayre,.....	Montgomery.
Arkansas,.....	T. D. Merrick,.....	Little Rock,.....	John H. Newborn,.....	Little Rock.
California,.....	Whiting G. West,.....	Shasta,.....	L. C. Owen,.....	San Francisco.
Canada,.....	T. D. Harrington,.....	Toronto,.....	James Henderson,.....	Hamilton.
Connecticut,.....	Fredrick J. Calhoun,.....	New-Haven,.....	Elphalet G. Storer,.....	New-Haven.
Florida,.....	Thomas Y. Henry,.....	Quincy,.....	John B. Taylor,.....	Tallahassee.
Georgia,.....	Philip T. Schley,.....	Savannah,.....	Benjamin B. Russell,.....	Augusta.
Illinois,.....	Nelson D. Elwood,.....	Joliet,.....	G. H. Reynolds,.....	Springfield.
Indiana,.....	William Hacker,.....	Sheboyville,.....	Francis King,.....	Indianapolis.
Iowa,.....	E. W. Eastman,.....	Eldora,.....	W. B. Langridge,.....	Muscantine.
Kentucky,.....	Thomas Todd,.....	Sheboyville,.....	Philip Swigert,.....	Frankfort.
Louisiana,.....	A. J. Norwood,.....	Clinton,.....	Samuel G. Risk,.....	New-Orleans.
Maine,.....	Moses Dodge,.....	Portland,.....	Ira Berry,.....	Portland.
Maryland and Dis. Col.,.....	James Goszler,.....	Washington,.....	Jos. Robinson,.....	Baltimore.
Massachusetts,.....	John McClellen,.....	Boston,.....	Thomas Waterman,.....	Boston.
Michigan,.....	William P. Inness,.....	Grand Rapids,.....	J. E. Johnson,.....	White Pigeon.
Mississippi,.....	G. M. Hillyer,.....	Natchez,.....	R. W. T. Daniel,.....	Jackson.
Missouri,.....	J. W. Crane,.....	Burlington,.....	A. O. Sullivan,.....	St. Louis.
New-Jersey,.....	Wm. M. Goodwin,.....	Watsonville,.....	John Wolverton,.....	Trenton.
New-York,.....	James M. Austin,.....	New-York,.....	John O. Cole,.....	Albany.
North-Carolina,.....	E. F. Watson,.....	Watsonville,.....	Thomas B. Carr,.....	Wilmington.
Rhode-Island,.....	John Eldred,.....	Newport,.....	Thomas A. Doyle,.....	Providence.
South-Carolina,.....	A. G. Mackey,.....	Charleston,.....	Ebenezer Thayer,.....	Charleston.
Tennessee,.....	Robert S. Moore,.....	Clarksville,.....	Charles A. Fuller,.....	Nashville.
Texas,.....	William T. Austin,.....	Galveston,.....	A. S. Ruthven,.....	Galveston.
Vermont,.....	Thomas H. Campbell,.....	St. Albans,.....	J. B. Hollenbeck,.....	Burlington.
Virginia,.....	Powhatan B. Starke,.....	Charles City,.....	John Dove,.....	Richmond.
Wisconsin,.....	Erastus Lewis,.....	Janesville,.....	William T. Palmer,.....	Milwaukee.

The Grand Secretary of New-Hampshire would respectfully request the Grand Secretaries of all other Grand Chapters to transmit to him copies of their proceedings at an early day after published, and he will, with pleasure, reciprocate the favor.

PROCEEDINGS

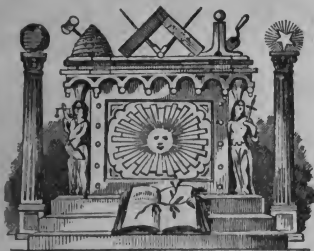
OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire,

AT ITS

ANNUAL CONVOCATIONS,

HELD IN CONCORD,



JUNE 10, 1861, AND JUNE 9, 1862.

CONCORD:

STEAM PRESS OF McFARLAND & JENKS, PHENIX BLOCK.
1862.

~~Free~~ masons, New Hampshire. Royal
Arch Masons. Grand Chapter.
PROCEEDINGS

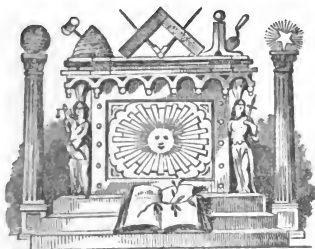
OF THE

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JUNE 10, 1861, AND JUNE 9, 1862.

CONCORD:
STEAM PRESS OF McFARLAND & JENKS, PHENIX BLOCK.
1862.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
FOR 1861.

The Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire was held at Concord, June 10, A. D. 1861, A. I. 2391.

There being a quorum of Grand Officers and Members present, the Grand Chapter was opened in due form by Comp. Jonas Livingston, E. Grand King.

On motion of Comp. D. R. Marshall,—

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons, in regular standing, be admitted to seats in this Grand Chapter.

Comps. Greenleaf Cummings, N. W. Cumner and L. A. Walker were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

On motion of Comp. G. Cummings,—

Voted to dispense with the reading of the proceedings of the last Convocation, as the printed Journal was in the hands of the Companions.

On motion of Comp. D. R. Marshall,—

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter shall be called from labor, it shall be to two o'clock this afternoon, and that the Grand Chapter go into the election of Grand Officers, at half past three o'clock this afternoon.

Comps. J. D. Chandler, Barrett Ripley and Charles Osbrey were appointed a Committee on Finance.

Comps. Lewis Woodman, Thomas Pearson and R. G. Wyman were appointed a Committee on Chapters.

Report of Committee on Credentials :

The Committee on Credentials ask leave to report the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Members and Visiting Companions in attendance and entitled to seats in this Grand Chapter :

Grand Officers.

E. Comp. JONAS LIVINGSTON, *Grand King*.

“ “ SAMUEL M. WILCOX, *Grand Scribe*.

“ “ HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary*.

“ “ THOMAS PEARSON, *Grand Capt. of the Host*.

“ “ WILLIAM E. WEBSTER, *Grand Tyler*.

Past Grand Officer.

M. E. JOHN KNOWLTON, *P. Grand High Priest*.

Members.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 2. Lyman A. Walker, *High Priest* ; R. G. Wyman, *Proxy for King* ; Josiah Stevens, Jr., *Scribe*.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 3. John R. Holbrook, *High Priest*.

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, No. 4. Barret^t Ripley, *High Priest*.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 5. A. P. Carpenter, *High Priest*; P. H. Paddleford, *Proxy for King*; Greenleaf Cummings, *Scribe*.

WEBB CHAPTER, No. 6. R. E. Miller, *High Priest*; Lewis Woodman, *Proxy for King*; James Goodwin, *Scribe*.

BELKNAP CHAPTER, No. 8. Charles A. Tufts, *Proxy for High Priest*.

MERIDIAN SUN CHAPTER, No. 9. J. D. Chandler, *High Priest*; Thomas Pearson, *King*; D. R. Marshall, *Scribe*.

MT. HOREB CHAPTER, No. 11. G. R. Roberts, *Proxy for High Priest*; N. W. Cumner, *King*; Charles Osbrey, *Proxy for Scribe*.

Visiting Companions.

C. H. Woods, J. A. Harris, C. A. Robinson, A. Scheuer, and H. Fessenden, Trinity Chapter; John Dame, Washington Chapter; James Adams and Saul S. Stevens, Franklin Chapter; Jonas Parker, Webb Chapter; T. S. Hoyt, Belknap Chapter; A. H. Saunders, Meridian Sun Chapter; John B. Chase, Mt. Horeb Chapter.

G. CUMMINGS,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
N. W. CUMNER,		
L. A. WALKER,		

The Grand Chapter was called off till two o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON.

At two o'clock, the Grand Chapter reassembled and resumed labor.

The resolution, offered at the last Annual Convocation by Comp. Greenleaf Cummings, having the effect to alter the Grand Constitution, and having laid over for consideration, which was in the following words :

“Resolved, That hereafter the annual meeting of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be held at Concord, on Tuesday next following the first Wednesday of June, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon,” was then taken up, when Comp. D. R. Marshall moved that said resolution be so amended that it shall read as follows :

“Resolved, That hereafter the annual meeting of this Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall be held at Concord, on Monday next following the first Wednesday of June, at four o'clock in the afternoon.”

The question, being put on the adoption of the proposed amendment, was decided in the affirmative.

The question then recurring on the passage of the resolution as amended, it was decided in the affirmative, and the resolution passed.

The Grand Secretary read a Communication from the Secretary of Mt. Lebanon Chapter, in Vermont, in relation to a misunderstanding between said Mt. Lebanon Chapter and Franklin Chapter No. 5, in this State, upon the subject of masonic jurisdiction, which, on motion of Comp. Chase, was referred to the Committee on Chapters.

Comp. Samuel M. Wilcox, H. Chase and Lyman A. Walker were appointed a Committee to take into consideration the death of Comp. Moses Paul, Grand High

Priest elect of this Grand Chapter, and report appropriate resolutions for the consideration of this Grand Chapter.

Comp. Chase offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That upon the application of Bro. John D. Devin, who received the Mark, Past and M. E. Master's Degrees in Trinity Chapter, for leave to be exalted elsewhere, as a matter of convenience to him, this Grand Chapter has no jurisdiction; that the whole matter rests with Trinity Chapter, and that any action of the Officers of Trinity Chapter in the matter will be satisfactory to this Grand Chapter.

The Grand Secretary presented and read communications from the Grand Chapter of New-York and Grand Lodge of Tennessee, on the present condition of our country, which, on motion of Comp. Marshall, were laid on the table till after the election of Grand Officers, the time for that purpose having arrived.

Comps. G. Cummings and R. E. Miller were appointed a Committee to collect, sort, count and declare the state of the vote, when the Grand Chapter proceeded to ballot, and the following Grand Officers were severally declared duly elected :

- M. E. Comp. Jonas Livingston, Claremont, *G. H. P.*
- E. Comp. Samuel M. Wilcox, Exeter, *D. G. H. P.*
- " " E. W. Harrington, Manchester, *G. K.*
- " " Thomas Pearson, Nashua, *G. S.*
- " " John Knowlton, Portsmouth, *G. T.*;
- " " Horace Chase, Hopkinton, *G. S.*
- " " James Adams, Candia, *G. C.*
- " " Richard N. Ross, Dover, *G. C. of the H.*

On motion of Comp. Chase, the communications from the Grand Chapter of New-York and Grand Lodge of Tennessee were taken from the table and referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Comps. Chase, Wilcox and Holbrook.

On motion of Comp. Wilcox,—

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter shall be called from labor it be till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor.

TUESDAY, June 11, 1861.

At 10 o'clock in the forenoon the Grand Chapter re-assembled, and was called to labor.

The Grand High Priest elect made the following nominations:

- | | | | |
|----------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| E. Comp. | Lyman A. Walker, | Concord, | <i>G. P. S.</i> |
| " | " | John R. Holbrook, | Portsmouth, <i>G. R. A. C.</i> |
| " | " | A. P. Carpenter, | Bath, 3, } <i>G. M. of the V.</i> |
| " | " | D. R. Marshall, | Nashua, 2, } |
| " | " | Barrett Ripley, | Keene, 1, } |
| " | " | John D. Chandler, | Nashua, <i>G. S. S.</i> |
| " | " | Charles H. Woods, | Concord, <i>G. J. S.</i> |
| " | " | William E. Webster, | Concord, <i>G. T.</i> |

Report of Committee on Chapters.

The Committee on Chapters report:—That returns have been received from the following Subordinate

Chapters, showing the number of Exaltations and Members as follows :

	Exaltations. Members.	
Trinity Chapter,.....No. 2,.....	13	78
Cheshire Chapter,.....No. 4,.....	8	24
Franklin Chapter,.....No. 5,.....	9	52
Webb Chapter,.....No. 6,.....	5	75
Belknap Chapter,.....No. 8,	8	121
Meridian Sun Chapter,...No. 9,		42
Mt. Horeb Chapter,.....No. 11,.....	3	115
	<hr/> 46	<hr/> 507

LEWIS WOODMAN, }
 R. G. WYMAN, } *Committee.*
 THOMAS PEARSON, }

The Committee on Chapters made a further report on the subject-matter submitted to them, in relation to Franklin Chapter, No. 5, at Lisbon, and Mt. Lebanon Chapter, at Bradford, Vermont, that, after an examination of the facts as now communicated by the officers of Franklin Chapter, and communications of Mt. Lebanon Chapter, through their Secretary, they are unanimous in the opinion that the matter, as now presented, does not properly come before this Grand Chapter, and is and should be left to the discretion, judgment and universal courtesy of Franklin Chapter.

THOMAS PEARSON, }
 LYMAN A. WALKER,* } *Committee.*
 LEWIS WOODMAN, }

Which reports were severally read and accepted.

NOTE. Washington Chapter subsequently made return to the Grand Secretary, showing 5 Exaltations and 55 Members, making the whole number of Exaltations 51, and whole number of Members 562.

* Substitute for Comp. Wyman.

*

Report of the Committee on Finance.

The Committee on Finance, having attended to their duty, report that they find the Grand Treasurer chargeable as follows :

DR.	To cash in the hands of the Grand Treasurer of the last Convocation,	\$221.06
	To interest on the same,.....	8.02
		<hr/>
		\$229.08

Discharged as follows :

CR.	By cash in the hands of the Grand Secretary, as contingent fund,	\$15.00
	By cash paid McFarland & Jenks,	45.60
		<hr/>
		\$60.60
	Balance in the hands of last year's Treasurer,	\$168.48
	To cash received of Grand Secretary,.....	102.00
		<hr/>
		\$270.48

Bill which the Committee recommend to be paid :

Balance of bill of Horace Chase,.....	12.64
	<hr/>
Balance in the hands of Grand Treasurer,	\$257.84

JOHN D. CHANDLER,	} Committee.
BARRETT RIPLEY,	
CHARLES OSBREY,	

Which report was read and accepted.

The Special Committee to whom was referred a printed Report of a Committee of the Grand Chapter of New-York, and a printed Circular, purporting to have emanated from the Grand Lodge of Tennessee, both based upon, and, to some extent, considering the unhappy and distracted condition of our country, in

its present political aspects and warlike attitude, report that they have examined those documents, and given to them all the consideration their limited time would allow ; that they, in common with the expressed sentiments of their worthy Companions in New-York and Brethren in Tennessee, and, as they believe, with the universal sentiment of the Masonic Fraternity throughout the length and breadth of this our once happy, united and prosperous country, deeply lament the present unhappy sectional divisions of our country, and the hostile and warlike attitude in which those sections are arrayed each against the other ; yet they view it contrary to the spirit and teaching of the Masonic Institution for Masons, in their capacity as such, either individually or collectively, to express any opinions as to the cause, or suggestive of the basis for the settlement of our national difficulties, and would most heartily indorse the sentiments embraced in the resolution adopted by the Grand Chapter of New-York :

“ That however much we may deplore the unhappy condition of our beloved country, and, as American citizens, use our utmost exertions to avert that greatest of all national calamities, civil war, we would, in our Masonic capacity, and as a collective Masonic body, deem it prudent to refrain from expressing any opinion or taking any farther action on the subject.”

HORACE CHASE,	} <i>Committee.</i>
SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	
JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	

Which report was read and accepted.

Comps. Horace Chase and Lyman A. Walker were appointed a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

Report of the Committee on the death of Comp. Paul.

The Committee appointed to report resolutions in relation to the decease of M. E. Moses Paul, Grand High Priest elect of this Grand Chapter, beg leave to submit the following report:

Whereas, since our last Annual Convocation, by the dispensation of the Supreme Grand Architect of the universe, our Most Excellent Companion, Moses Paul, Grand High Priest elect of this Grand Chapter, and for many years a worthy and honored member and officer of this Grand Chapter, has been removed from us by death,

Resolved, That while we can not but deeply feel the loss of so eminent and so ardent a supporter of our time-honored Institution, and while the absence of his wise counsel, cheering voice and kindly smile of fraternal greeting from this, our stated Convocation, revives the poignancy of our sorrow, we yet recognize in the afflictive dispensation, the chastening hand of that overruling Providence that doeth all things well, and accept it as a solemn admonition that our mission is not all of earth, but that we shall all be called upon, sooner or later, to follow him through the dark valley to a home beyond the grave, where those fraternal ties, entered into here, shall bloom in eternal spring, never more to be severed.

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter tenders to the family and friends of our distinguished Companion our heartfelt sympathies in their bereavement, and we accept it as a sacred trust to aid them in placing the virtues of so noble a character upon perpetual record, as an example worthy of imitation in all time to come.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be instructed to

transmit a copy of the foregoing resolutions to the family of our lamented Companion.

For the Committee,

S. M. WILCOX.

Which report was accepted, and the resolutions unanimously adopted.

Comp. Thomas Pearson offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That, in the matter of conferring Degrees, this Grand Chapter will not, in all cases, discountenance an interchange of courtesies between its Subordinate Chapters and those of neighboring States, but recommend that all such departures from the ordinary course be made with great caution, and a due regard to the interests of the Order in its widest extent.

Installation of Grand Officers.

The Grand High Priest elect, after having been installed by Past Grand High Priest, Companion John Knowlton, proceeded and installed the other Grand Officers present in due form.

On motion of Comp. Pearson, Comp. Wilcox was authorized to install Comp. Richard N. Ross, Grand Captain of the Host elect, he not being present.

On motion of Comp. Wilcox, Comp. Chase was authorized to install Comp. E. W. Harrington, E. Grand King elect, he not being present.

Comp. Wilcox offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Council be authorized to procure suitable Jewels for the Grand Chapter, pro-

vided there shall be funds sufficient to meet the expenses; and that the Grand High Priest is authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for the necessary amount.

The Grand Chapter was then closed in ample form.

A true record.

Attest: HORACE CHASE,
 Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
1862.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New-Hampshire, was held in Concord, on Monday, the 9th day of June, A. D. 1862, A. L. 5862, at four o'clock P. M.

Grand officers present.

E. SAMUEL M. WILCOX, *Deputy Grand High Priest.*

E. EDWARD W. HARRINGTON, *Grand King.*

E. THOS. PEARSON, *Grand Scribe.*

E. JOHN KNOWLTON, *Grand Treasurer.*

E. HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary.*

E. JAMES ADAMS, *Grand Chaplain.*

E. RICHARD N. ROSS, *Grand Captain of the Host.*

E. LYMAN A. WALKER, *Grand Principal Sojourner.*

E. A. P. CARPENTER, *Gr. M. of 3 V.*

E. D. R. MARSHALL, *Gr. M. of 2 V.*

E. JOHN D. CHANDLER, *Gr. Sen. Steward.*

E. CHARLES H. WOODS, *Gr. Jun. Steward.*

There being a quorum of grand officers present, the Grand Chapter was opened in due form by Comp.

Samuel E. Wilcox, E. Deputy Grand High Priest, assisted by the Grand Chaplain.

The proceedings of the last annual convocation were read by the Grand Secretary, and approved.

Comp. D. R. Marshall submitted the following report, which was adopted :

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing, who may be in the city, be admitted to seats in this Grand Chapter.

The following standing committees were appointed :

Committee on Credentials—Comps. A. P. Carpenter, Chas. H. Woods, T. J. French.

Committee on Chapters—Comps. Lyman A. Walker, Greenleaf Cummings, D. R. Marshall.

Committee on Finance—Comps. J. B. Fish, Chas. A. Tufts, Thomas Pearson.

On motion of Comp. G. Cummings,

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter will go into the election of grand officers to-morrow, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon.

On motion of Comp. Chandler,

Voted, That when this Grand Chapter shall be called from labor, it be until to-morrow, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor.

TUESDAY, June 10, 1862.

At 9 o'clock in the forenoon, the Grand Chapter reassembled, and was called to order.

Present as of yesterday.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence made the following report :

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Most Excellent Grand High Priest and Companions :

Through the merciful providence of the Grand High Priest of heaven and earth, we are permitted once more to meet in Grand Convocation ; not exclusively to deliberate upon such matters as shall advance the interest, promote harmony, peace and prosperity within our own jurisdiction, but to inquire into the condition and prospects of the Royal Craft in other jurisdictions ; to sympathize with them in their sorrows, to rejoice in their joy, and extend to them our warmest congratulations and words of encouragement while traveling the rough and rugged road in prospect before us. To this end your Committee have attentively considered the matters of interest presented them in the Journals of the following Grand Chapters, and now ask the favor of presenting the result of their labors for your consideration.

As the most concise form of presenting statistical facts, they have prepared the following table, showing the year of Proceedings, number of Chapters, number of Members and Exaltations, and names and residences of Grand High Priests and Grand Secretaries.

STATISTICAL FACTS.

138

Grand Chapters.	Year of Proceedings.	No. Chapters.	No. Members.	No. Exalta's.	Grand High Priests	Residence.	Grand Secretary.	Residence.
Canada,	1862	23	861	140	John Chas. Franck,	Belleville,	Thomas B. Harris,	Hamilton.
Indiana,	1861	47	1590	51	George W. Porter,	New-Albany,	Francis King,	Indianapolis.
Iowa,	1863-60	26	631	56	Kimball Porter,	Iowa City,	W. B. Langridge,	Muscatine.
Kentucky,	1861	70	1041	56	Theo. Kohlhaas,	Winchester,	P. Swigert,	Frankfort.
Louisiana,	1861	21	795	57	A. S. Washburn,	Bastrop,	Samuel G. Risk,	New-Orleans.
Maine,	1861	13	656	81	Edw. P. Burnham,	Saco,	Ira Berry,	Portland.
Maryland & D. C.,	1861	9	378	18	James Goszler,	Washington, D. C.	Wellorris Smith,	Washington, D. C.
Michigan,	1861	25	1253	18	William P. Jones,	Grand Rapids,	J. Eastman Johnson,	Centerville.
Minnesota,	1860	8	132	18	R. S. Alden,	St. Anthony,	A. T. C. Pierson,	St. Paul.
Mississippi,	1861	66	2545	256	S. H. Johnson,	Gallatin,	W. T. Daniel,	Jackson.
New-Jersey,	1861	12	424	63	T. J. Corson,	Trenton,	J. Wolverton,	Trenton.
Ohio,	1861	74	2960	190	John M. Parks,	Hamilton,	John D. Caldwell,	Cincinnati.
Pennsylvania,	1860	43	2195	264	Harman Yerkes,	Brandon,	William H. Adams,	Burlington.
Vermont,	1860	13	791	80	Barzilla Davenport,	Plattville,	John B. Hollenbeck,	Milwaukee.
Wisconsin,	1861	21	676		John H. Roundtree,		William T. Palmer,	

These proceedings your Committee have examined in their order :

CANADA.

Their Annual Convention was held on the 19th of February 1862, being the fifth since their organization.

The opening address is by John Charles Frank, M. E. Grand High Priest, from which it appears that, in January 1857, the Convention which then met and formed a Grand Chapter consisted of Delegates from three Chapters only; and that in February 1858, at their first Annual Convention, there were but four Royal Order Chapters in the whole Province, and that now, in 1862, the number of Chapters was twenty-three,—at that the Grand High Priest anticipates a steady increase to their numbers.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appends to his address a communication from the Supreme Grand Chapter of England, in which they recognize the Grand Chapter of Canada, reserving to all Chapters now in Canada holding Charters under the Grand Lodge of England, and to all English Royal Arch Masons, all their rights, titles and privileges as fully as though the Grand Chapter of Canada had not been formed.

These reserved rights, titles and privileges are embraced in the following principles which the Grand Chapter pretends to hold to and maintain; and, as they are entirely at variance with the principles and practice of Royal Arch Masonry not only in the United States but also in Canada, the Committee will be excused for referring to them as explanatory of the difference in conferring the Royal Arch degree.

1. They hold that in accordance with arrangements entered into under the act of Union in 1813, pure

Ancient Masonry consists of three degrees only, viz., Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, including the supreme order of the Holy Royal Arch.

2. That the privilege of every Mason initiated under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England is that of taking all his degrees in full under the Constitution.

3. That the brethren of every Lodge have the inalienable right of seeking to have a Royal Arch Chapter attached to the Lodge in order to enable them to complete their degrees if they wish to do so, and in case of there not being sufficient Royal Arch Chapters in the neighborhood.

4. That, under the arrangements entered into between the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of England, and the Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter of Canada, they have not only the right but are bound to afford to all Lodges and Masons in Canada holding under the Grand Lodge of England, the means of completing, under the English Constitution, their degrees, if they do not already possess them, by attaching a Chapter to each Lodge.

In answer to these several positions taken by the Grand Chapter of England, the Grand High Priest of Canada says, "As to the first position it is questionable whether his Grand Chapter can entertain those arrangements, since it has admitted the intermediate degrees between those of Master Mason and the Royal Arch." To the second position he admits that any Brother initiated under the Constitution of the Grand Lodge of England or under any other Constitution,—that of the Grand Lodge excepted,—has the right to be exalted in a Chapter holding a Charter from the Grand Chapter of England or any other Grand Chap-

ter; but says it does not follow nor is it reasonable that he should claim the right to have a Chapter attached to the particular Lodge in which he was made, nor does he deem it possible that Brethren of every Lodge have that inalienable right contended for, as such a position would render the Grand Chapter of England subordinate to the dictates of Lodges, at least, as far as the granting of warrants is concerned.

Whether the severance of Royal Arch Masonry in this country from Grand Lodges and the establishment of independent bodies, was an exercise of rights and powers inherent in Capitular Masonry, or an assumption of power as tending to the better organization of the order, is not material, as the right has been too long exercised now to be questioned.

As the Grand Chapter of Canada has recognized the principle of conferring the intermediate degrees of Mark, Past and M. E. Master, prior to the Royal Arch, it is clear it can not and ought not to conform to the principles contended for by the Grand Chapter of England.

It is also clear that as the Grand Chapter of England does not recognize the Mark, Past, and M. E. Masters' degrees, no English Royal Arch Mason can be admitted to visit a Chapter in the United States or Canada before being formally healed by receiving those degrees.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence is by G. F. Laserre, and is a fair and faithful review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Scotland and eighteen Grand Chapters of the United States,—ours not included. As it is probable the proceedings of our Grand Chapter will be published this year, it is hoped that in their next report we may be noticed.

INDIANA.

The Annual Address of Comp. William Haicker, M. E. High Priest, is principally confined to matters within that jurisdiction. He alludes to a few subjects of a general interest, expresses his opinion, and recommends them to the consideration of his Grand Chapter.

He says most of the Chapters in the state hold their meetings in the same room with the Lodge. To this he says there can be no objection. But in some places, in addition to the Lodge and Chapter, the same room is occupied by a Lodge or Encampment of Odd Fellows. In other places, the Lodge and Chapter room is let to a Division, or some other temperance organization, while at other places the Chapter room is let to social parties, picnics, school exhibitions, &c., until the public have almost come to the conclusion that they have a right to occupy the Lodge and Chapter rooms for any and all purposes. He expresses a belief that any Lodge or Chapter that can not or will not procure a room, fit it up, and keep it exclusively for Masonic purposes, should be required to surrender their Charters, and quit work, as not being proper persons to be intrusted with either.

Whether this practice prevails in this jurisdiction to any dangerous extent, your Committee are not advised; but they would recommend that in all cases where Chapters have the exclusive control of rooms or halls, that they keep them exclusively for Masonic purposes; and that where they have not such exclusive control, the utmost caution be used that no injury can result to the Order from any joint occupancy.

The Grand High Priest alludes to the practice prevailing in almost all jurisdictions, of employing substitutes at Exaltations. The legality of this practice is

an important question, and should be solemnly settled by this Grand Chapter. Your Committee can not but look upon the practice as an artful evasion, if not a direct violation of our obligations and duties as Royal Arch Masons.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. Thomas R. Austin, reviewing the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Chapters, our own included.

IOWA.

From the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, E. W. Eastman, at the Annual Convention of 1859, we make the following extract:

“Masonry, like the deep mystic river, should move on its mission in silence and in secret, till all things are revealed by Him from whom nothing can be hid. It is to be lamented that so many of our public addresses are made *anti-masonic* by bestowing so much adulation upon masonic charity which should never be named in public. This and proselyting, which is equally objectionable, have induced many to seek admission into our order for purely mercenary purposes. Such persons are nominally members of the order, but they are not *masons*—the heart of a mason is not in them. They usually make merchandize of the institution, as hypocrites and apostates do of the church, for their own aggrandizement. Among this class may safely be counted itinerant lecturers and speculators in masonic jewels and regalia, and advertisers under masonic symbols. We would naturally distrust a merchant if he were to advertise that he was a member of the Methodist, or Presbyterian, or Congregationalist, or Catholic church, with a design of obtaining the exclusive custom of those sects of christians. Masons who do these things are usually rotten at heart, and should be discountenanced by the fraternity. These things should be regarded as marks of suspicion, rather than attraction. There is another class, who may be termed traveling vagabonds, which is becoming quite numerous. They go from mason to mason, and lodge to lodge, seeking charity upon a pretense of some woeful calamity, such as never happens to the “world’s people.” I have never met with one of them who was not a base counterfeit; and I make it a rule to turn my back upon *that class of beggars*, and to advise all, and especially young and uninformed masons, to have no fellowship with them.”

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for 1859 is signed by G. W. Teas and W. E. Woodward. They report as having received the proceedings of twenty Grand Chapters, four for 1857, 1858 and 1859 included. These proceedings are not reviewed separately, but subjects of general interest discussed. A good part of the report is a review of opinions expressed by the Grand Chapters for and against the General Grand Chapter, which are not now necessary to consider. The seventh Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held August, 1860. The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Geo. W. Teas, is brief, and mostly confined to a report of his official acts.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Companion T. S. Parvin, P. G. High Priest, one of the most zealous, active and well informed masons in Iowa or elsewhere. He acknowledges the receipt of the proceedings of thirteen Grand Chapters, including New-Hampshire.

After complimenting Companion Reynolds, Gr. Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Illinois, very highly—and deservedly, too—as being one of the best statisticians of the order, he promises to make a brief report, and faithfully redeems his pledge by giving a report of nine pages, giving no statistics.

His report is confined principally to the action of the various Grand Chapters upon a few subjects of general interest to the craft. He first takes up the subject of the General Grand Chapter, and after showing in what favor it stands with the various Grand Chapters, comes to the conclusion that one of three things should be done, and done quickly.

“First. Rally to its support and try to build it up with our companions of Tennessee.

“Second.* Affirm our entire and permanent separation from it with Kentucky.

“Third. Work to dissolve the body as a useless appendage to the order; for it is conceded by its warmest advocates that now it is a mere meeting of delegates for social talk, interchange of opinion, and election of officers.”

As to the first position, your Committee would say that if, as stated in the third position, the General Grand Chapter be now a body without vitality or power—a useless appendage to the order—it is not worthy of support. As to the second position, it is doubtful whether any Grand Chapter that is now, or has ever been, connected with the General Grand Chapter, can withdraw from it consistently with their masonic duties and obligations.

To work, then, for its dissolution, seems to be the only chance of abating the evil, if it be such; and this process would be useless and ineffectual, for so long as there remain General Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, and three or more Grand Chapters, or Chapters, it will exist as a legally constituted body, having jurisdiction over any territory not embraced within the jurisdiction of any Grand Chapter.

But your Committee are not ready to admit that the General Grand Chapter is so useless an appendage to the order as it is by some contended to be. It may be instrumental in producing a uniformity of work, which is one thing greatly to be desired, and which, at

* The Grand Chapter of Iowa adopted the second position, by passing a resolution absolving herself for ever from all connection with the General Grand Chapter, voting by Chapters. Yeas, 28; nays, 15.

the last triennial Convocation, it made proposition to do at the meeting in September next, by appointing a competent committee to report upon that subject.

Those who have been most vociferous against the General Grand Chapter, have styled it an arbitrary and dangerous body, and ought not to be suffered to exist; and now, since it has amended its constitution, and divested itself of those arbitrary and dangerous powers, it is a powerless body, and therefore ought to die. Like some who are never satisfied with the weather—with whom it is always too hot or too cold, too wet or too dry—they are not satisfied that the General Grand Chapter should be either *powerful* or *powerless*.

It is our deliberate judgment that it has never been under the control of more safe, judicious, competent and efficient officers than at the present time; and, with its amended constitution, it would be but fair to cease complaining, and give it an impartial trial.

Companion Parvin's views on the subject of uniformity of work coincide entirely with our own. He says that in the South they have the Mackey work, and in the North the Lovell work; and which is right or which is wrong, no one can tell. That, although a uniformity of work throughout the Grand Chapters is desirable, it can never be attained; but a uniformity of work throughout the subordinates of each Grand Chapter may be approximated to, and should be insisted on.

We would inform Companion Parvin that we have what we claim to be the ancient Webb work, and that we can show as near an approximation to uniformity throughout our jurisdiction, as any other Grand Chapter in, or out of the Union.

Companion Parvin alludes to the Past Master's degree on this wise : In the action of the General Grand Chapter in 1856, before shorn of its power, we have a sample of its utility.

It ordered that all ceremony be dispensed with in conferring this degree, except the means of recognition ; and yet we find many of the Grand Chapters (and among them the warmest apparent supporters of that body) legislating upon this subject as though it had not been done to order for them by the General Grand Chapter. Either their legislation is final, or it has no legislation at all ; and yet the Grand Chapters which say it is final are the first to disregard it where it does not suit their peculiar notions or their preconceived views.

Your Committee introduce this extract, not only to show Companion Parvin's views upon this subject, which are entitled to great weight, but also as affording them an opportunity of expressing a hope that this Grand Chapter will enforce upon its subordinate Chapters a strict conformity to the order of the General Grand Chapter concerning the conferring the degree of Past Master, in letter and spirit ; and that any violation of the same by any subordinate Chapter shall be at the hazard of being deprived of its charter.

KENTUCKY.

Annual Convocation October 21 and 22, 1861. From the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, T. N. Wise, we extract the following eloquent and beautiful sentiment :

“ In the unity of love, and in the bonds of peace, we continue to meet and mingle. Firm and unimpaired by convulsions around us is the gladsome cement which unites us—distinct as the bil-

lows, but one as the sea. Up through the dim vista of the past, along the pathway of revolving years, for many centuries gone, faithful votaries of our mystic rites have preceded us in the agreeable offices which engross us to-day. We are busy with the precepts, the axioms, the types, the ceremonials, of illustrious men, who have fought the good fight and entered upon the inheritance which fadeth not away, but is eternal in the Heavens. These are living histories, sacred emblems, such links which connect the present with the great and good of the past, animate the noble breast, and kindle its generous mind. History explains the future by the lessons of the past. If such is the fact, we may not doubt that whatever may be the vicissitudes of the hour, as we now look up the plane of time to our predecessors, and attest the stability of this venerable institution, so coming generations, yet unborn, will gladly, in their day, contemplate the solid base, the graceful columns, the grand proportions, and the lofty dome of a temple, superior to the storms which have strewn the land with fallen empires, and the sea with scattered navies, and still survives, vital in every function, bright as the morning star, and like

“‘Some tall cliff that lifts its awful form,
Swells from the vale, and mid-way leaves the storm,
Though round its breast the rolling clouds are spread,
Eternal sunshine settles on its head.’”

There was no report on Foreign Correspondence, and the whole business of the session is embraced in seven pages. Returns of subordinate Chapters occupy nineteen pages. The Grand Secretary has appended to the proceedings a full and complete table of statistics, giving the name, number and location of each subordinate chapter, numbers of members, exaltations, admissions, demissions, deaths, rejections, expulsions, suspensions, ministers and dues, which foot up as follows: members, 1041; exaltations, 56; admitted, 3; demitted, 24; deaths, 13; rejected, 3; expelled, 5; suspended, 5; ministers, 51; dues, \$545. By a report on the Grand Treasurer's account, the available funds of this Grand Chapter are \$6,623.23.

LOUISIANA.

Annual Convocation, February 12, 1861. The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Abel J. Norwood, occupies one page only.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, submitted by Comp. J. Q. A. Fellows, acknowledges the receipt of proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters, those of our Grand Chapter for 1860 included, a greater number than were before received. Comp. Fellows refers to a table of statistics, prepared by the Assistant Grand Secretary, as containing all about which it is necessary to report, and closes, occupying only two pages with his report.

MAINE.

Annual Convocation, May 6, 1861. From the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Moses Dodge, we make the following extract, referring to the unhappy condition of our country, as breathing the true spirit of Masonic patriotism, love of country, and devotion to the Union :

“Companions—while all may be peace within our Masonic Temple, from North to South, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific—and within the sacred walls of our thousands of Lodges and Chapters, harmony and brotherly love may prevail among the hundreds of thousands of our Masonic Brotherhood—while nothing is permitted within these sacred retreats that will engender strife, stir up the bitter feelings produced by partizan or sectarian questions, or disturb the harmony and concord that should reign therein—there reaches us from without an alarm, proclaiming in tones that can not be disregarded, that this Union—our country—in the cradle of whose revolutionary struggles American Masonry was rocked—is about to be rent asunder.”

* * * * *

“Our *National Constitution*, framed by our fathers, many of whom were pledged at the altars of masonry, and were brethren of those who fought in our revolutionary struggle for liberty, brethren of Washington, Warren and Lafayette—this constitu-

tion, which heretofore has bound us together as one people, which we regard as the supreme law of the land, and which every mason is solemnly bound to support and maintain, is now in danger of being thrown aside as an 'unholy thing,' and its provisions disregarded. And while evil passions seem to have warped the judgment of many in our land, in some localities 'madness rules the hour.'

"In view of this threatened peril, what is the duty of each member of this great Union and Brotherhood, which has embraced in its fold a Franklin, a Jackson and a Clay; whose members are citizens of all sections of our common country; who have no balance of power to maintain between North and South; who know no Mason and Dixon's line to divide them; and who, if true to their masonic teachings, must be far the most powerful conservative element in this nation?

"Every mason throughout this entire land, whether resident in our own state or Texas, South-Carolina or California, is a brother, and bound to us by the most sacred ties. Can we, then, be bitter foes; forget the kind relations that should ever exist between the members of our beloved order, every where; cease to 'love one another;' forget the lessons of self-denial, justice, prudence and patriotism, taught us in the Lodge, and be found arrayed as enemies, brother against brother?

"Say, can the South sell out her share in Bunker's hoary height?
Or can the North give up her boast in Yorktown's closing fight?
Can ye divide with equal hand a heritage of graves?
Or rend in twain the starry flag that o'er them proudly waves?

"Can ye cast lots for Vernon's soil, or chaffer mid the gloom
That hangs its solemn folds about our common Father's tomb?
Or could ye meet around his grave as fratricidal foes,
And wake your burning curses o'er his pure and calm repose?"

The Grand High Priest affectionately alludes to the death of Comp. Daniel B. Emerson, M. E. Past Grand King, and the Grand Chapter pays him a handsome tribute of respect, by dedicating a page in its proceedings to his memory. Comp. Emerson was a native of Hopkinton, N. H., received his first three degrees in Blazing Star Lodge, and was exalted and received the Council Degrees in Trinity Chapter. He was our personal friend; we knew him well as an honest man, and a just and upright mason—modest and unobtrusive in his manners, gentlemanly in his deportment,

and universally respected and esteemed wherever known.

The elaborate and well written Report on Foreign Correspondence of twenty-four pages, as we presume, is from the ever-pointed pen of Comp. Cyril Pearl. In reviewing our proceedings of 1860, after quoting a short paragraph from Comp. Wilcox's report in reference to the General Grand Chapter, he adds: "Their notice of Maine is fraternal, but too personally 'Pearly' to allow of our copying it, modest as we are constitutionally." It was said by one English writer of another, "Let him employ his tongue to speak his thoughts, and it babbles idly; but give him a pen, and clear as Helicon his periods flow." Now we would not intimate that our worthy Rev. and E. Comp. Pearl, modest as we know him to be, can not talk as well as write, but, if he possesses a solitary Pearl we could covet, it would be his ability in wielding the pen. We would be glad to embody his whole report, but time and space will not permit. We hope, however, to be excused for the following extract under the head of "The Royal Arch and the National Crisis," as pertinent to the times and occasion. After alluding to the meeting of the General Grand Chapter at Chicago in 1859, and the tranquilizing of the conflicting elements which had disturbed that body, he remarks:

"We all felt that there was in that body, and more especially in the State Grand Chapters there represented, a conservative moral force, silent it might be, dormant perhaps, awaiting its emergency, but one certain to be felt when the hour of trial should come, and the perils of the country should command its existence.

"That hour of trial and the national perils are now upon us; and the interests of humanity now summon every man and every mason to his post of duty. Sectional strife has culminated in civil war, and a nation is rushing to arms. The country of

Washington is in the throes of civil war, and the city called by his name is now trod by marshaling hosts who rally to protect a national capital from invading armies rallying for its destruction, and the overthrow by violence of the government which was founded and sealed with the blood of noble martyrs, led by him to death, or, as we had fondly hoped, to a deathless victory. By what seems to us an inexplicable infatuation, seven of the states so lately called united, have been hurried by their leading statesmen into revolt against the government founded by Washington, and which, almost in its infancy, had become the wonder of the world.

"Another misfortune is, that the two great sections of the country, and the political parties that govern them, have too long and too persistently misunderstood each other, and too fatally misled the people who had looked to them for light and direction. Conservative men, christian men, engrossed in their varied enterprises, have been too ready to leave the affairs of government in the hands of those who aspired to its honors, and its official trusts and spoils; so that all at once we are roused from fatal slumber by the battle-cry and the maddening march of revolting legions.

* * * * *

"We can hopefully rely upon the fidelity of our companions in this hour of our national trial, that they will be true to the sacred pledges assumed around our altars, and of course true to the government under which they live. It will not be difficult for those of us who live in the states now loyal to the national flag, to stand by our allegiance, and sustain with all our manhood our government and its standard-bearers in this fiery ordeal.

"At the same time we can feel a deep and abiding sympathy with companions in seceding states, who are exposed to peculiar temptations and trials in the currents of popular excitement, and the frenzied passions and misapprehensions by which they are ensnared. We can implore them to remain true to their sacred pledges, against all participation in plots against government—their vows to be true to the government under which they live, now so violently assailed by those who have grasped the reins of state government, and arrayed their power against the authority of the nation. We can assure them of our deep sympathy for their well being, and urge them to fidelity in applying all the forces of masonic life to hold back and allay the violence and passion by which they are surrounded. We will still cherish the hope that the reign of violence may be short, and the return of peace hallowed by substantial benefits to our country and our race."

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Annual Convocation Nov. 12, 1861. The proceedings state that the M. E. Grand High Priest made a short extemporaneous and very appropriate address, alluding to the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in that jurisdiction, and the unfortunate condition of political affairs as affecting the Royal Art.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence by Comp. E. S. Stevens is a brief but able and well written document. In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, which have not come to our possession, Comp. Stevens notices a peculiarity which he has found in no other except the Mississippi report, and which we join with him in hoping never again to see in the proceedings of any Grand Chapter of the United States. They contain a statistical table, headed in bold capitals with these significant words, **GRAND CHAPTERS OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF THE UNITED STATES AND OF CANADA.** In the words of Comp. Jeffreys, of New-Jersey, he adds, that "whatever may be the design of our Companions in dividing the territory which is the one common heritage of our forefathers, they must not expect thus to divide the great family of masons who live on this continent; for as long as any true Companions can be found in each of these three divisions, they will unite in holding firmly the Royal Arch which spans the whole continent, and a voice will sound out from under that Arch, declaring that

" We three must agree
In peace, love, and harmony,
Our sacred word to keep."

The Grand Chapter very appropriately and affec-

tionately notices the death of a native of our state, and an accomplished mason, Companion Charles Gilman, M. E. Past General Grand High Priest, by resolutions, and inscribing to his memory a page in its proceedings.

Upon reading the Resolutions, M. E. Past G. H. P., B. B. French, rose and delivered a beautiful eulogium of the deceased, which we would be glad to insert were it not for its length.

Companion Gilman was our particular friend, and the friend of the whole human race. When he left the Bar in this county, we well remember the endearing ties then severed, and the Resolutions adopted by the Bar expressive of the feelings of the members, and the high estimation in which he was held by them. In 1833 Companion Gilman was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New-Hampshire. During that year he removed from this his native State to Baltimore, where he became distinguished in his profession and as a mason. For fifteen years he was the Recording officer of the G. G. Encampment and G. G. Chapter of the United States. In 1856, he was elected G. G. High Priest, of the G. G. Chapter, which office he held until 1859, when he declined a reelection on account of ill health. In every position of honor or trust in which Companion Gilman was ever placed, he discharged the duties of his station honestly, faithfully, promptly, ably and efficiently. In all the relations of life he sustained the character of a just, upright and honest man, and sincere and devoted christian, and died in the hope of an inheritance of life eternal beyond the grave.

MICHIGAN.

The annual Convention was held Jan. 7, 1861.

The opening address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp Innes, is principally confined to a report of his official acts, and matters exclusively within their own jurisdiction.

He congratulates his Grand Chapter on the restoration of peace and harmony within the jurisdiction where murmurings of discord had recently been heard, threatening serious disaster to the Craft,—alluding, as we suppose, to the disaffection occasioned by the granting of a Charter for a new Chapter by Grand High Priest Coffinbury, contrary to the provisions of the G. G. R. A. Constitution, which occasioned, at the time, much animated, if not angry discussion, and threatened the peace and prosperity of the order within that jurisdiction. This difficulty, we are happy to learn, was amicably settled in 1860, and all are now in harmony and good fellowship.

In the Report on Foreign Correspondence by Companions J. Eastman, Johnson and Darrow, we find this notice of our Grand Chapter: "This Grand Chapter held it to be unnecessary for a candidate for the Chapter degrees to be a member of a Lodge."

This is new ruling to us. It is not within our recollection that the question was ever raised or discussed in our Grand Chapter;—if it has been, and so held, it must have been with some qualifications, and not in general terms, as expressed above.

What is the increase of the order in Michigan does not appear, not a single Exaltation appearing on record.

MINNESOTA.

This Grand Chapter is in its infancy, having been organized in Dec. 17, 1859, under a warrant from Albert G. Mackey, M. E. General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter.

Companion A. T. C. Pierson was elected first M. E. Grand High Priest, who, at the first Grand Annual Convocation, Oct. 1860, in his address, gave a very succinct and well-condensed history of Royal Arch Masonry. From his address we also learn that the General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter had convened the Grand Council to agree upon and report a system of work and lectures, and after mutual compromise between the North, South, East and West, they have agreed upon a report of a system which he is willing to adopt. If their labors meet with general satisfaction, and their report of work be generally adopted, they will have achieved a great desideratum, and relieved the General Grand Chapter from the charge of being a useless appendage to the order.

MISSISSIPPI.

Annual Convocation, 1861.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Giles M. Hillyer, not being present, a brief address from him was read and spread upon the minutes, from which we learn his official duties had been light, had granted few dispensations, his opinion seldom required, had no acts of discipline, no censures to promulgate, no faults to find, and that peace and harmony prevailed in the jurisdiction. He alludes to the Convention of the Grand Officers of the General Grand Chapter in April past, to agree on a system of work, and which he attended ;

represents the meeting as a delightful interchange of Masonic Friendship, and embodying an exuberant fund of Masonic lore, experience and information. There were counseling Brethren present from many jurisdictions, to whose suggestions the fullest attention was paid and the most careful consideration given. He thinks a system of work was agreed upon which can not fail of harmonizing the work and lectures of Royal Arch Masonry in North America.

If uniformity of work is the one thing most desirable, and if their labors produce this result, it will in a great measure allay the clamorous objections to the General Grand Chapter.

We find nothing in the proceedings deserving particular notice, being very brief, and little more than settling their financial matters and the election and installation of Grand Officers.

NEW-JERSEY.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in September 1861.

The Annual Address of the M. E. High Priest, Thos. J. Corson, represents the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction in a happy, harmonious and prosperous condition. He compares the Grand Chapters, owing allegiance to the General Grand Chapter and compelled to boost up this useless and cumbersome organization, to Sysiphus of old, who was condemned to the cruel task of constantly rolling the huge stone up the rugged hill; but says we owe allegiance to it, from which we can not absolve ourselves. In this we agree with him. We do not admit the right of Secession either from the union of States or from the union of the General Grand Chapter.

From his address we extract the following bursts of eloquent and soul-stirring patriotism and love of country, as too good to be "wasted on desert air."

"But even now, while we are congratulating ourselves on the present prosperity of our order, a wail of sorrow and deep anguish is heard from Maine to California, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, which sickens the heart and saddens the soul of every true mason. We behold those who were but recently affectionate brethren and companions, now engaged in an internecine and fratricidal war. Our beloved country is in peril, the horizon of our future is clouded in doubt and darkness, and the stoutest heart is appalled. Wicked and unprincipled demagogues, led on by unholy ambition, are seeking to destroy that government, and rend to fragments that Union, to establish which a Washington fought and a Warren fell, which cost us the most precious blood of our forefathers, and under which we have attained a national greatness and prosperity unparalleled in the history of the world.

* * * * *

"It may be objected to that this is not the time or place to speak of these matters—that we, as masons, have no right to discuss national affairs. What, then, are we to do? Must we stand idly by, with sealed lips and folded arms, and, by our ignominious silence, refuse to give aid and encouragement to those of our brethren and companions who are struggling to preserve that government which has descended to us as a priceless heritage from our forefathers? We are none the less citizens because we are masons; and if we do not love our country, we are unworthy of the position which we hold—we are unworthy to be called *masons* or *men*. We have been wont, in former times, in our annual addresses and masonic orations, to speak in glowing terms of the *prosperity* of our country; and shall we have no word for her in her days of *trial, danger and adversity*? Away with such base cowardice and poltroonery! Let us boldly speak out for the cause of right, truth and justice. We have eulogized the characters of Washington, Franklin, Warren, '*et omne id genus*,' as true men and masons, because they boldly battled for truth, right and justice; and future masonic orators will include the name of ROBERT ANDERSON in this bright galaxy, as a true man and mason, because he nobly and bravely defended his country's honor. We honor such patriots, and we trebly honor the patriotism that prompted them to lay wealth, position, and all that is dear to the human heart, upon the altar of their country, as a willing sacrifice to duty."

The report on Foreign Correspondence, from the pen of Companion Wm. H. Jeffries, is an exceedingly

faithful, able and impartial review of the proceedings of twenty-six Grand Chapters, in which Companion Wilcox is complimented by an extract of what he says in his report in reviewing the proceedings of that Grand Chapter.

We would be glad to make liberal extracts from Companion Jeffries report, but, fearing we may be thought too tedious, we must be content with one only, showing the writer's views of the General Grand Chapter; and we hope to be the more excusable as we have been pretty liberal in showing the opposition to that body, and to be impartial should also show Companion Jeffries' views, as he is its warm advocate, and for sustaining it. He says:

"Royal Arch Masonry, on this continent, has been fostered and matured under the paternal care of that General Grand Body, until Grand Chapters have been formed, and are now flourishing in almost every state and territory throughout the entire country. There are some masons who think that the General Grand Body has now accomplished its mission, and should therefore be abolished. They represent it as a grand scaffolding which was necessary while the grand arches in the several states were in course of erection; but now that they are completed, they say this grand scaffolding should be taken down, and thrown among the rubbish of the temple. If this sentiment prevails, and this course is adopted, we fear the craft will soon be in confusion for the want of 'a certain keystone,' with which to hold together the National Arch of Grand Chapters in the several states.

"Never before, in the history of Freemasonry in America, has the importance of such an organization been as plainly perceptible as at the present time. While all the social ties of an ecclesiastical, civil and political nature, which have hitherto bound in fraternal union the northern and southern states of this great republic, are now being severed, how important to the honor and the interest of Freemasonry is the existence of a General Grand Body, in which men and masons, from the North and the South, may meet and exchange sentiment and feeling, without regarding each other as enemies. And will not such feelings tend to allay the animosity which exists in both sections? Will not the convocations of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, throughout the whole United States, ultimately

result in bringing together once more those who have been separated by prejudice and misunderstanding?

* * * * *

"It is a proud thought for our fraternity, that the future historian will be able to record the fact that while, during the struggle of conflicting elements and opinions, which resulted in actual war and bloodshed, all the great national organizations throughout the country were broken up and divided, the one great national organization of Royal Arch Masons, although severely tried, withstood the shock, and still remained undivided amid the jarring elements of discord and civil war.

"Companions—with the prospect of such a record in the future, we say to the Royal Fraternity of this and every other Grand Chapter, let us rally around the General Grand Chapter; let its organization be supported and maintained under all circumstances, and at any reasonable sacrifice; and let us all unite in the sentiment with which we will close this report: **THE UNION OF AMERICAN FREEMASONRY—IT MUST AND SHALL BE PRESERVED.**

"The union of hands, the union of hearts,
The union of souls none can sever:
The union of Lodges, the union of Chapters,
And the union of masons for ever."

OHIO.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in October 1861. Companion Harvey Vinal, M. E. Grand High Priest, delivered his Annual Address, confined principally to matters interesting only to that jurisdiction.

In view of the condition of the country, scarcity of money and almost total suspension of business, and in consideration that the funds of the Grand Chapter are amply adequate to meet its expenses for some time to come, he recommends to the Grand Chapter either to reduce the amount of dues required of the subordinate Chapters, or to remit wholly the dues for the current year, as a relief to those Chapters doing little work or destitute of funds.

The Masonic Fraternity of Ohio has been called to mourn the loss by death of one of its brightest orna-

ments, as a man, a mason and a christian, in the person of Companion Horace M. Stokes, P. G. Master, and P. G. High Priest, to which the Grand High Priest affectionately alluded, and on occasion of which a committee made a report giving the deceased due meed of praise for the excellent qualities of head and heart he possessed, the purity of life he spent, and the good example he set to the living.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, by Companions James S. Reeves, J. M. Parks and John Rowe, is a candid and able review of the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters, our own not included.

From the opportunity of examining the report, your committee have been unable to notice any subject-matter of general interest not before referred to, and indorse the report as one among the best, with the exception of the paragraph near the close, apologizing that "it was written with railroad speed, with no time left for revision, correction or amendment," which they think wholly uncalled for.

PENNSYLVANIA.

At the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, Dec. 27, 1860, Companion Benjamin Parke, M. E. Grand High Priest, on retiring from office, delivered an extended, beautifully-conceived and eloquently expressed, moral, Masonic, historical and patriotic address. He treats of the origin of Masonry as growing out of the physical and moral wants of man as a fallen being; of its being the handmaid of religion, and calculated to lead the serious and contemplative mind thereto; of its mission, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, relieve the distressed, bind up the wounds of

the afflicted, and to do good to all men, especially to those of the household of faith—our brethren. He gives an interesting historical sketch of the origin and progress of Royal Arch Masonry, and accounts for deficient systems and various order and manner of conferring degrees ; and, lastly, he alludes to the unhappy condition of our country in no less vivid, fervent, patriotic and eloquent appeals than those we have before read. We could wish his entire address could be read by every Mason in our land, and would have given extracts, but were at a loss to make judicious selections, and have contented ourselves by giving this imperfect synopsis.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is very brief, acknowledging the receipt of the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters, which have been examined by the chairman, Comp. George Griscom, who has great pleasure in stating that they exhibit a gratifying condition of prosperity, and what is more important, of harmony and true fraternal policy among the Craft around our widely extended land.

VERMONT.

We have the proceedings of August, 1860—none later. At that Convocation the time of the Annual Convocation was changed from August to October. We ought, then, before this, to have been able to greet the subsequent proceedings of one of our nearest neighbors, but are disappointed, and must speak of such as we have. The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. Thomas H. Campbell, is a straightforward, sensible, and well written document. He says that among the old Masons of that state is found

the greatest minds of the country fifty or sixty years ago ; such as Chittenden, Smith, Ticknor, Chipman, Williams, Colton, Whitney, Haswell, and others, who were plain men, and were not ashamed to wear the plain white lambskin apron, and expresses the opinion, in which we heartily concur, that no regalia should be worn in any of the Orders in Masonry but such as appropriately belongs to the Order.

He comes out in strong opposition to the General Grand Chapter, and after referring to the amended Constitution, divesting itself of all power but to settle controversies mutually submitted to it, makes the following pertinent and sensible remark : " Companions—My education is limited ; all I have was received in a log school-house some sixty years since ; but the small share of common sense I have teaches me that, if any difficulty should arise between the Grand Chapter of Vermont and the Grand Chapter of New-Hampshire, it might as well be referred to the Grand Chapter of Connecticut, if the parties agree to the referee, as to go to Memphis in Tennessee, some two thousand miles or more, and submit the question to the General Grand Chapter."

In closing his address, and alluding to his accepting the office one year ago for one year, and one year only, and pledging to discharge the duties faithfully, he adds : " I have endeavored to fulfill my promise. The experience of one year has fully satisfied my ambition. I now say to you that my mind is not changed since my acceptance of this honorable and responsible office. The frosts of seventy-three winters admonish me to retire from all official stations. I was gratified with my election at Bennington one year since, as that was the place where I first drew breath in 1787.

For your kindness and confidence, accept my grateful acknowledgments. I love you, and I love the Order."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is signed by Comp. Hiram Stevens, J. B. Hollenbeck, and J. S. Webster, and exhibits evidence of labor, ability, and courtesy peculiarly characteristic of our Green Mountain Brethren and Companions.

We learn, by the proceedings, that the Grand Chapter by a resolution absolved itself from all connection with and allegiance to the General Grand Chapter.

We regret that their proceedings do not give fuller statistics of the condition and progress of Royal Arch Masonry in their jurisdiction. By putting together and footing up the numbers set against the lists of members of Subordinate Chapters, we were enabled to determine the number of members in the state, but no where could we find the number of Exaltations, which is always desirable to know, as the only means of judging of the increase of the Order.

WISCONSIN.

Annual Convocation, February, 1861. From the opening address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Companion Erastus Lewis, we quote his language on the necessity of proper caution to be used in admitting members, which we view as pertinent and appropriate to the subject, the times and the occasion, and applicable to all jurisdictions.

"Masonry has attained to that degree of popularity and respect which in no former period has been accorded to it, and sinister men are seeking its portals and knocking for admission; not because they entertain favorable views of masonry, but because the institution is honorable, and made so by honorable men. Had Isaiah predicted concerning masonry when he said, 'In that day seven women shall take hold of one man, saying,

we will eat our own bread and wear our own apparel; only let us be called by thy name to take away our reproach,' we should say the time had come for its literal fulfillment. Only let us be *called masons*, and we will don some trinket by which the world may know we are such. Only let us be known by thy name, and we will wear our own filthy garments, and feed on the husks with which we have in vain attempted to fill ourselves. So long as the institution is a favorite with the world, so long let us be called by thy name, and we will prate of it over our cups, and loudly defend it when assailed. Talk not to us of silence and circumspection, of temperance, or any of the cardinal virtues, only let us be called by thy name. But let persecution, such as some of us have witnessed, again sweep over the lands, and these would be the first to denounce the institution and go to their own place. We can not be too cautious in selecting materials for the building. Let it be such as will stand the test of the overseer's square."

He refers to the practice, every where in that jurisdiction, of admitting to the Chapter degrees those who are not members of any Blue Lodge, and recommends the subject to the consideration of the Grand Chapters; which was referred to a committee, who reported a resolution, which was adopted, forbidding the practice. There was no report on Foreign Correspondence.

The Committee are happy in being able to state that, so far as the proceedings of the various Grand Chapters give statistical information, they furnish indubitable evidence of a steady and healthful increase of the Royal Craft within their respective borders; and, what is vastly more important, they show that no discord exists within their respective jurisdictions. They are also happy to find that no difference exists between the several Grand Chapters upon any important matter except upon the subject of the General Grand Chapter. Upon this subject they are widely divided. Some contend that it serves as the great head and regulator of Royal Arch Masonry—the important keystone that supports the great Arch which spans the whole continent, and take this away and the whole

fabric of Royal Arch Masonry falls to the ground, a mass of shattered fragments. Some believe it a useless, cumbersome appendage, hanging as a dead weight upon the order, and should be dissolved, and have resolved to withdraw their connection with it. Some Grand Chapters have never acknowledged its authority; while others believe it has accomplished its mission, and is now no farther useful or ornamental, but feel bound to regard its authority; and with these different views, what will be its final destiny time only can develop.

Your Committee have taken the liberty to call your attention to several subjects deserving consideration, and have embraced their views in Resolutions appended to this report.

And now, having closed their labors, they submit their Report, imperfect as it is, thanking the Grand Chapter for the confidence reposed in them, and hoping that hereafter the honor of their position may be conferred upon Companions more competent and deserving.

HORACE CHASE,
For the Committee.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter, that the practice of exaltation by substitutes is contrary to, and an evasion of the spirit and common sense view of our obligations as Royal Arch Masons; and the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction are hereby required to wholly abandon the practice.

Resolved, That the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction are hereby requested to conform strictly to the order of the General Grand Chapter, passed in September, 1856, concerning the conferring of the Past Master's degree; and that any Chapter refusing to conform to said order shall be subject to masonic discipline.

Resolved, That the subject matter of receiving applications and conferring the Chapter degrees upon unaffiliated Master Masons, be referred to a special committee, and that they report a resolution embracing their views thereon.

On motion of Comp. Pearson,

Voted, That the resolutions recommended by the committee on foreign correspondence be referred to the committee on Chapters.

The committee on credentials made a report, embracing, in addition to the grand officers before mentioned, the following officers of subordinate Chapters and visiting companions :

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 2. Lyman A. Walker, *M. E. High Priest* ; Charles H. Woods, *E. King* ; L. M. Morrill, *E. Scribe*.

Visiting companions—Elisha Adams, J. A. Harris, L. W. Nichols, Elijah Knight, C. A. Robinson, John Whitaker, J. M. Hayes, Geo. C. Robinson, E. C. Colby.

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, No. 4. T. J. French, *Proxy for M. E. High Priest* ; Wm. S. Briggs, *Proxy for E. King*.

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 5. A. P. Carpenter, *M. E. High Priest* ; John F. Morse, *Proxy for E. King* ; Lewis P. Cushman, *Proxy for E. Scribe*.

Visiting Companions—Chas. U. Dunning, Greenleaf Cummings, A. K. Howard.

WEBB CHAPTER, No. 6.

Visiting Companion—Robert S. Stubbs.

BELKNAP CHAPTER, No. 8. Richard N. Ross, *M. E. High Priest* ; Oliver Wyatt, *E. King* ; Charles A. Tufts, *E. Scribe*.

Visiting Companion—Franklin McDuffie.

MERIDIAN SUN CHAPTER, No. 9. John D. Chandler, *M. E. High Priest* ; Thomas Pearson, *E. King*.

Visiting Companions—A. H. Saunders, David A. G. Warner.

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 11. John B. Fish, *M. E.*

High Priest ; N. W. Cumner, *E. King* ; John D. Patterson, *E. Scribe*.

Visiting Companions—Chas. Osbrey, G. H. Goodwin.

A. P. CARPENTER, }
CHAS. H. WOODS, } *Committee.*

A question then arose, whether Comp. Pearson was a member of Mount Horeb Chapter, which, after much discussion, was referred to a select committee, consisting of Comps. Carpenter, Walker and Ross.

The hour assigned for the election of grand officers having arrived, Comps. Cumner, Cummings and Chandler were appointed a committee to receive, count and declare the state of the votes ; when, ballots being cast, the following companions were declared duly elected :

Samuel M. Wilcox, Exeter, *M. E. Grand High Priest*.

Edward W. Harrington, Manchester, *E. Deputy Grand High Priest*.

Thomas Pearson, Nashua, *E. Grand King*.

Richard N. Ross, Dover, *E. Grand Scribe*.

John Knowlton, Portsmouth, *E. Grand Treasurer*.

Horace Chase, Hopkinton, *E. Grand Secretary*.

James Adams, Candia, *E. Grand Chaplain*.

Lyman A. Walker, Concord, *E. Grand Capt. of the Host*.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor until two o'clock, afternoon.

AFTERNOON.

At two o'clock, afternoon, the Grand Chapter reassembled, and was called to order.

The M. E. High Priest elect then made the following nominations :

- Comp. John D. Chandler, Nashua, *G. Prin. Sojourner*.
 “ A. P. Carpenter, Bath, *Grand R. A. Captain*.
 “ D. R. Marshall, Nashua, 3, }
 “ N. W. Cumner, Manchester, 2, } *G. M. of the V.*
 “ Chas. H. Woods, Concord, 1, }
 “ Greenleaf Cummings, Lisbon, } *Grand Stewards.*
 “ Geo. C. Robinson, Concord, }
 “ Charles A. Robinson, Concord, *Grand Tyler*.

Installation.

The M. E. High Priest, having first been installed by M. E. John Knowlton, P. Grand High Priest, proceeded and installed the other grand officers.

Report of committee on Chapters.

The committee on Chapters, to whom was referred the resolutions submitted for the consideration of this Grand Chapter, by the committee on foreign correspondence, report that the first resolution, which is in the following words,

“*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Chapter that the practice of exaltation by substitutes is contrary to, and an evasion of, the spirit and common sense view of our obligations as Royal Arch Masons; and the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction are hereby required to wholly abandon the practice,” be not adopted by this Grand Chapter.

That the subject matter of the second resolution, in relation to conferring the Past Master's degree was acted upon at the annual convocation in 1859; and we would now recommend to each of the subordinate

Chapters in this jurisdiction a strict conformity with the recommendation embraced in the resolution then adopted, which resolution is as follows :

“Resolved, That this Grand Chapter recommend to the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction to abridge the ceremonies now conferred in the Past Master’s degree within their narrowest limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the Oriental Chair, and the communicating of the means of recognition.”

We would further recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That any Subordinate Chapter which may persistently refuse to comply with the above recommendation shall be subject to Masonic discipline.

In relation to the third resolution, the Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter recommend and advise the several Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction to adopt a by-law as early as may be, requiring all candidates for the degrees to be members in good standing of a regular Lodge of Master Masons.

L. A. WALKER,	} Committee	
G. CUMMINGS,		on
D. R. MARSHALL,		Chapters.

Which report was accepted, and resolutions reported adopted.

The Committee on Chapters made further report, That returns have been received from all the Subordi-

nate Chapters within this jurisdiction, showing the number of exaltations and members, as follows :

Trinity Chapter,	No. 2—21	Exaltations;	88	Members.
Washington Chapter,	“ 3—10	“	63	“
Cheshire Chapter,	“ 4—9	“	35	“
Franklin Chapter,	“ 5—8	“	60	“
Webb Chapter,	“ 6—3	“	83	“
Belknap Chapter,	“ 8—8	“	128	“
Meridian Sun Chapter,	“ 9—5	“	47	“
Mount Horeb Chapter,	“ 11—7	“	118	“
		Exaltations, 71	Members, 622	

The returns from Washington Chapter No. 3 are not strictly correct in form ; the numbers appended to the names of the members not showing the full membership of the Chapter, as those Companions who have been exalted the past year are not included in the list.

L. A. WALKER,	} Committee on Chapters.
G. CUMMINGS,	
D. R. MARSHALL,	

Which report was accepted.

The Select Committee appointed on the question of Comp. Pearson's membership made the following report, which was accepted :

The Committee find that Comp. Pearson was exalted in Mount Horeb Chapter, was duly elected and became a member thereof, and continued a member until the Charter of Meridian Sun Chapter was revived by this Grand Chapter, for the revival of which Comp. Pearson was a petitioner. No demit has ever been granted by Mount Horeb Chapter to Comp. Pearson, although asked for by him ; for the reason, as alleged by said Chapter, that certain quarterly dues from Comp. Pearson were unpaid, and for that reason

Mount Horeb Chapter claims that Comp. Pearson is still a member of that Chapter.

Your Committee are of the opinion that, by the action of this Grand Chapter in reviving the Charter of Meridian Sun Chapter, Comp. Pearson, being a petitioner for its revival, became a member of that Chapter, and from that date ceased to be a member of Mount Horeb Chapter, and that he was bound to pay all dues and perform all other duties prescribed by the Constitution and By-Laws of Mount Horeb Chapter up to that time, and no longer.

A. P. CARPENTER,	} Committee.
R. N. ROSS,	
L. A. WALKER,	

Comp. L. A. Walker offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Council be authorized to procure such jewels as may be necessary to complete the set required by this Grand Chapter, and that the Grand High Priest draw on the Treasurer for an amount necessary to pay for the same.

Comp. D. R. Marshall offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be authorized to procure the printing of three hundred copies of the proceedings of 1861 and 1862, together with the report on Foreign Correspondence, the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and the Grand Regulations of this Grand Chapter now in force ; and that he be allowed to publish two hundred copies of the Grand Regulations separately, if he thinks proper.

Report on Finance.

The Committee on Finance report, That they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer, and find he has charged himself as follows :

Amount on hand as by report of last year,	\$238.84
Balance of interest at five per cent,	11.94
Cash received this day of Grand Secretary,	142.00
	<hr/>
	\$392.78

They have examined the following bills, which they find correct, and recommend to be paid :

Bill of A. W. Pollard,	\$20.00
“ William P. Parker & Co.,	15.00
“ McFarland & Jenks,	4.00
“ William E. Webster,	4.00
“ Grand Secretary, balance,	19.88
	<hr/>
Amounting to	\$62.88

Which, being deducted, leaves a balance in his hands of	\$329.90
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Respectfully submitted,

J. B. FISH, CHARLES A. TUFTS, THOMAS PEARSON,	} Committee.
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Which report was accepted.

Comp. Lyman A. Walker offered the following resolution, which was adopted :

Resolved, That the sum of fifteen dollars be and hereby is appropriated to Comp. Horace Chase, as compensation for the Report on Foreign Correspond-

ence, made by him as Chairman of the Committee, and that the Grand High Priest be authorized to draw his order upon the Grand Treasurer for the same.

Comp. H. Chase offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to Blazing Star Lodge, for the use of their hall during this and former Grand Convocations.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary transmit to Blazing Star Lodge a copy of the above resolution.

There being no farther business, the Grand Chapter was closed in ample form.

A true record—attest :

HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary*.

ABSTRACT

OF

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

JUNE, A. D. 1862.

NAMES.	LOCATION.	NO.	MEMBERS.	EXALTATIONS.	DUES.	HIGH PRIESTS.	SECRETARIES.
Trinity Chapter.....	Concord.....	2	88	21	\$42.00	Lyman A. Walker.	J. W. Hildreth.
Washington Chapter...	Portsmouth	3	63	10	20.00	John R. Holbrook.	Horace Webster.
Cheshire Chapter.....	Keene.....	4	35	9	18.00	Barrett Ripley.....	Gilman Joslin.
Franklin Chapter.....	Lisbon.....	5	60	8	16.00	A. P. Carpenter....	G. Cummings.
Webb Chapter.....	Claremont..	6	83	3	6.00	Henry S. Smith....	S. F. Redfield.
Belknap Chapter.....	Dover.....	8	128	8	16.00	Richard N. Ross...	W. R. Tapley.
Meridian Sun Chapter..	Nashua.....	9	47	5	10.00	John D. Chandler	Wm. White.
Mount Horeb Chapter..	Manchester	11	118	7	14.00	John B. Fiske.....	S. B. Kidder.
No. of Chapters.....		8	622	71	\$142.00		

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE SINCE
ITS FIRST ORGANIZATION IN 1819, AND THE TIME IN OFFICE.

GRAND HIGH PRIEST.	DEP. GR. HIGH PRIEST.	GRAND KING.	GRAND SCRIBE.	GRAND SECRETARY.	Time in office.
John Harris,*	Thomas S. Bowles,	Henry Hutchinson,*	Broughton White,	Thomas W. Colby,*	1819
"	"	Broughton White,	Henry Hutchinson,	"	1820
Thomas S. Bowles,	John Prentiss,	Timothy Kendrick,*	H. G. Harris,	"	1821
Jonathan Nye,*	James F. Dana,*	Samuel Cushman,*	Edward Dean,	"	1822
Thomas W. Colby,*	Alpheus Baker,	Daniel Bradford,	Nathan Bingham,	Timothy Kendrick,*	1823
Samuel Cushman,*	Artemas Rogers,	Thomas Beede,*	Godfrey Stevens,*	"	1824
"	"	"	Frederick A. Sumner,*	"	1825
Frederick A. Sumner,*	Frederick A. Sumner,*	Joseph W. White,	Oliver Heaton,	Albe Cady,*	1826
"	Joseph E. White,	Oliver Heaton,	Horace Chase,	"	1827
"	Andrew Pierce,	"	"	"	1828
Andrew Pierce,	Horace Chase,	Horace Chase,	B. L. Greenough,	"	1829
"	B. L. Greenough,	B. L. Greenough,	Wm. Boardman,	"	1830
Jonathan Nye,*	Artemas Rogers,	Robert Smith,*	Stephen S. Palmer,	"	1831
Robert Smith,*	Robert Smith,*	Calvin Benton,	B. L. Greenough,	"	1832
B. L. Greenough,	B. L. Greenough,	William Boardman,	Charles Lane,	"	1833
"	Lemuel L. Barker,	Samuel Huntington,*	Caleb Wentworth,	"	1834
"	Samuel Huntington,*	Jonathan Nye,*	Charles Lane,	"	1835
Robert Smith,*	Weare Tappan,	Samuel Huntington,*	Abel Hutchins,*	"	1836
"	"	"	"	"	1837
Weare Tappan,	Abel Hutchins,*	Daniel Chase,*	David Parker,*	"	1838
"	"	"	"	"	1839
Daniel Chase,*	"	David Parker,*	Philemon Tolles,	"	1840
"	"	"	"	"	1841
"	"	"	"	"	1842
David Parker,*	David Parker,*	Philemon Tolles,	John Christie,	"	1843
Philemon Tolles,	Philemon Tolles,	John Knowlton,	James Collins,	Hosea Fessenden,	1844
"	"	"	"	"	1845
Philemon Tolles,	John Knowlton,	James Collins,	John Christie,	"	1846
"	"	John Christie,	Horace Chase,	"	1847
John Knowlton,	John Christie,	Horace Chase,	Nicholas Fowler,*	"	1848

John Knowlton, John J. Prentiss, Daniel Balch, " " Albert R. Hatch, " " John Christie, " " Theodore T. Abbot, " " " " Moses Paul,* Jonas Livingston, Samuel M. Wilcox,	Hoses Fessenden, Daniel Balch, Albert R. Hatch, " " John Christie, " " T. T. Abbot, " " Moses Paul,* " " Geo. H. Hubbard, Samuel M. Wilcox, E. W. Harrington,	John J. Prentiss, Albert R. Hatch, John Christie, " " T. T. Abbot, " " Samuel Kelley, Moses Paul,* Jeremiah F. Daniell, Geo. H. Hubbard, " " Jonas Livingston, E. W. Harrington, Thomas Pearson,	Albert R. Hatch, William Carr, " " T. T. Abbot, Moses Paul,* " " Philemon Tolles, Jeremiah F. Daniell, Geo. H. Hubbard, Jonas Livingston, " " Richard N. Ross, Thomas Pearson, Richard N. Ross,	Horace Chase, "	1849 1850 1851 1852 1853 1854 1855 1856 1857 1858 1859 1860 1861 1862
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* Dead.

APPENDIX.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons

FOR THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

As Revised and Amended at the SEVENTEENTH TRIENNIAL SESSION, held
in Chicago, Illinois, September, 1859.

ARTICLE I.

OF THE GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

SECTION I. There shall be a General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for the United States of America, which shall be holden triennially, on the second Tuesday in September, at such place as shall from time to time be designated for that purpose, and at which time the General Grand Officers shall be elected by ballot, and installed, except the General Grand Chaplain, who shall be appointed by the General Grand High Priest at the commencement of each Convocation of the General Grand Chapter.

The General Grand Chapter, at any regular meeting, may change the time for the next succeeding meeting; and if, in the opinion of the General Grand High Priest, or, in case of his death or absence, of the senior General Grand Officer, there shall be danger to life or health, from sickness or other local cause, by

any meeting being held at the time appointed, he may change the time of the particular meeting to some subsequent time ; and, in the event of such change being made, he shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, who shall forthwith notify the other officers and members in such manner as he may deem best calculated to effect the desired object.

SEC. II. The General Grand Chapter receives all its powers, faculties and prerogatives by grant and delegation from the several State Grand Chapters ; and it can have and possess no other powers than such as are expressly granted and delegated to it by them, or as are indispensably necessary to the exercise of its general powers, and consistent with the nature of the confederation between the State Grand Chapters. It can exercise no doubtful powers, nor any powers by implication merely ; and all Masonic powers not hereby granted to it are reserved to the Grand and Subordinate Chapters of the several states.

It shall have and maintain jurisdiction over all Chapters established by itself in those states, districts, republics and territories which recognize this jurisdiction, and where there is no Grand Chapter established.

It shall have power to decide all questions of Masonic law, usage and custom which may arise between any two or more Grand Chapters, or in any of the Subordinate Chapters under its own immediate jurisdiction, and all that may be referred to it for its decision by any Grand Chapter, by formal vote ; and its decisions so made shall be deemed and regarded as those of the supreme judicial tribunal of Royal Arch Masonry in the last resort.

It shall have no power of discipline, admonition, censure or instruction over the Grand Chapters, nor any legislative powers whatever, not hereby specially granted, nor any authority to suspend the proceedings of any State Grand Chapters, nor shall entertain any complaint against a Grand Chapter, preferred by any Subordinate Chapter or individual Mason in that jurisdiction or elsewhere ; but it may, upon proper reference to it of any matter of controversy between any two or more Grand Chapters, and even where the question is not one of Masonic law, custom or usage (both or all such Grand Chapters consenting to such reference), act as final arbiter between them, and settle such controversy.

It shall judge of the qualifications of its own members. It shall see that the ancient work of the Order is preserved in the several degrees, and establish uniform formulas for installation of its own officers and those of Grand and Subordinate Chapters, for the consecration and constitution of Chapters, and the opening of Grand Chapters ; and it may suspend the proceedings of any Chapter under its own immediate jurisdiction, in any state, district or territory where there is no Grand Chapter, for any willful violation of any of the provisions of this Constitution, or for gross, unmasonic proceedings or conduct.

SEC. III. The officers of the General Grand Chapter shall consist of a General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King, General Grand Scribe, General Grand Treasurer, General Grand Secretary, General Grand Chaplain, General Grand Captain of the Host, and General Grand Royal Arch Captain. These, together with the first four officers of every State Grand Chapter under this jurisdiction, or the proxies of the first four General Grand Officers, and of the first four officers of each State Grand Chapter aforesaid, shall compose the General Grand Chapter: *Provided*, That any Chapter under this jurisdiction, in any state, district or territory where there is no Grand Chapter duly established, shall have a right to appear by its first three officers, or any one or two of them, which officers shall collectively have one vote.

SEC. IV. On all questions to be decided by the General Grand Chapter, each State Grand Chapter shall be entitled to four votes by its representative or representatives. If there be but two representatives, the inferior officer or his proxy shall give but his own single vote, and the higher or his proxy shall give the other three. If there be three representatives, the highest officer or his proxy shall give two votes, and the others or their proxies one each.

The General Grand Officers, when present, shall each have one vote; and no General Grand Officer shall be allowed to take a seat in the General Grand Chapter, as the representative of any State Grand Chapter, nor shall any member of the General Grand Chapter be permitted to vote as proxy while the person giving the proxy is present; nor shall any person be admitted into the General Grand Chapter, as the representative of more than one State Grand Chapter, at one and the same time.

SEC. V. The General Grand High Priest and Deputy General Grand High Priest shall have authority to call a special meeting of the General Grand Chapter, whenever they may consider it expedient or necessary; and it shall be their duty so to do when properly requested by a majority of the State Grand Chapters, of which four months' notice shall be given of the time and place of meeting.

SEC. VI. The General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe shall severally have power and authority to grant Dispen-sations, for a limited length of time, for new Royal Arch Chapters and Lodges of the appendant Orders, in any state, country, republic or territory in which there is not a Grand Chapter regularly established, when, in their opinion, the good of the Craft may require the same, which term of time shall, in no case, extend beyond the close of the next triennial meeting of the General Grand Chapter; but no new Chapter shall be established in any state, country, republic or territory where there is a Chapter within a reasonable distance, under the jurisdiction of this

General Grand Chapter, without the approbation of the Chapter nearest to the place where said new Chapter is proposed to be located; and in all cases of such Dispensation, the officer who may grant the same shall immediately notify the General Grand Secretary thereof, and make report of the same at the next triennial meeting of this General Grand Chapter, when the General Grand Chapter may grant the said Chapter a Charter.

SEC. VII. The fees for instituting a new Royal Arch Chapter, with subordinate degrees, shall be ninety dollars, and no more; and no credit shall be given for Dispensations or Charters, or for conferring the degrees, in any Chapter or Lodge under this jurisdiction. And every Chapter held by Dispensation or Charter under this jurisdiction, shall pay into the treasury of the General Grand Chapter, the sum of two dollars for each Companion therein exalted, until such time as a Grand Chapter shall be regularly established in the state, country, republic or territory in which such Subordinate Chapter is located. The Secretary shall be paid by the petitioners ten dollars for his services in furnishing the Charter.

The fees in the several states for conferring the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, shall not be less than twenty dollars.

SEC. VIII. It shall be the duty of the General Grand High Priest, Deputy General Grand High Priest, General Grand King and General Grand Scribe, to improve and perfect themselves in the sublime Arts, and work of Mark Masters, Past Masters, Most Excellent Masters, and Royal Arch Masons; to make themselves masters of the several Masonic Lectures and Ancient Charges; to consult with each other, and with the Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the several State Grand Chapters aforesaid, for the purpose of adopting measures suitable and proper for diffusing a knowledge of the said Lectures and Charges. And the better to accomplish this laudable object, the aforesaid officers are hereby severally authorized and empowered to visit and preside in any Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodge of Most Excellent Master, Mark and Past Master Masons throughout the said states, and to give such instructions and directions as the good of the Fraternity may require; always adhering to the ancient landmarks of the Order.

SEC. IX. The only degrees recognized by this General Grand Chapter, to be conferred in Chapters under its jurisdiction, are Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason. And no Royal Arch Mason, who shall have regularly received said degrees, shall be excluded from the rights of such by reason of his not being in the possession of any other, so called, degrees.

SEC. X. In all cases of the absence of an officer from any body of Masons, instituted or held by virtue of this Constitution, the officer next in rank shall occupy his place, unless through cour-

tesy, or for other reasons, he should decline in favor of a Past High Priest.

SEC. XI. In every Chapter and Lodge under the immediate jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter, all questions (except the admission of members or candidates, which shall require a unanimous ballot) shall be considered and determined in such way and manner as such Chapters and Lodges may, all circumstances considered, find most conducive to their harmony and permanent prosperity: *Provided*, They do not, in any case, interfere with, or infringe on, the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. XII. The General Grand Secretary of the General Grand Chapter shall have and keep a seal, which shall be affixed to all his communications.

SEC. XIII. Should any casualty, at any time hereafter, prevent the triennial election of officers, the several officers shall retain their respective offices until successors are duly elected and qualified.

SEC. XIV. An appeal shall, in all cases, lie to the General Grand Chapter, from the decision of the M. E. General Grand High Priest; but his opinion and decisions shall stand as the judgment of the General Grand Chapter, unless it is otherwise determined by the concurrent vote of two thirds of all the members present.

ARTICLE II.

OF STATE GRAND CHAPTERS.

SECTION I. The State Grand Chapters shall severally consist of a Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, Grand Captain of the Host, and, likewise of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes, for the time being, of the several Chapters over which they shall respectively preside, and of the Past Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of the said Grand Chapters; and the said Grand Chapters shall have full power and authority to elect such other officers, and to establish such rules and regulations as they shall, from time to time, consider necessary and proper: *Provided*, Such regulations do not, in any way, interfere with the provisions of this Constitution.

SEC. II. The State Grand Chapters shall severally be held once in every year, and oftener, if they may consider it expedient or necessary, at such time and place as they shall respectively direct; and, at their annual meetings, the constitutional officers shall be elected, or appointed in such manner as shall be provided for by their rules and regulations, and installed into their respec-

tive offices; and the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, for the time being, may call special meetings, to be held at such times and places as they may think proper.

SEC. III. The several State Grand Chapters shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons within their respective jurisdictions, to assign their limits, and to settle the controversies that may happen between them; and shall have power, under their respective seals and the signs manual of their respective Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes, attested by their respective Grand Secretaries, to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons within their respective jurisdictions; but their jurisdictions shall, in no case, be construed to extend beyond the limits of the state, except by consent of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. IV. The Grand and Deputy Grand High Priests, severally, shall have the power and authority, whenever they shall deem it expedient, during the recess of the Grand Chapter of which they are officers, to grant letters of Dispensation under their respective hands and private seals, to a competent number of petitioners, possessing the qualifications required by the 7th Section of the second Article of this Constitution, empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, for a certain specified term of time: *Provided*, That the said term of time shall not extend beyond the next meeting of the Grand Chapter of the state in which such Dispensation shall be granted: *And provided further*, That the same fees as are required by this Constitution for Charters, shall be first deposited in the hands of the Grand Secretary. And in all cases of such Dispensation, the officer who may grant the same shall make report thereof at the next stated meeting of the Grand Chapter of his jurisdiction; when the said Grand Chapter may either continue or recall the said Dispensation, or may grant the petitioners a Charter of constitution. And in case such Charter shall be granted, the fees first deposited shall be credited in payment of the same; but if a Charter should not be granted, nor the Dispensation continued, the said fees shall be refunded to the petitioners, excepting only such part thereof as shall have been actually expended by means of their application.

SEC. V. No Dispensation or Charter shall be granted for instituting Lodges of Most Excellent, Past or Mark Masters, independent of a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons.

SEC. VI. The Grand Chapters shall have power, severally, to require from the several Chapters under their respective jurisdictions, such reasonable proportion of sums received by them for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, and such certain annual sums from their respective members, as, by their ordinances or regulations, shall be appointed; all which said sums or dues shall be made good and paid annually by the said Chapters

respectively, over to the Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter under which they hold their authority, on or before the first day of the respective annual meetings of the several Grand Chapters.

SEC. VII. No Dispensation or Charter for the institution of a new Chapter of Royal Arch Masons shall be granted, except upon the petition of nine regular Royal Arch Masons; which petition shall be accompanied with a certificate from the Chapter nearest to the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and Masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending that a Dispensation or Charter be granted them.

SEC. VIII. The Grand Secretaries of the State Grand Chapters shall, severally, make an annual communication with each other, and also to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, containing a list of Grand Officers, and all such other matters as may be deemed necessary for the mutual benefit and information of the said Grand Chapters. And the said Grand Secretaries shall also regularly transmit to the Secretary of the General Grand Chapter, a copy of all their by-laws and regulations, and also a copy of their proceedings, annually, to each of the officers of the General Grand Chapter; and the State Grand Chapters shall see that their Secretaries faithfully and punctually perform this duty.

SEC. IX. Whenever there shall have been three Chapters regularly instituted and consecrated in any state, country, republic or territory, by virtue of authority derived from this Constitution, a Grand Chapter shall be established, so soon as convenience and propriety may dictate: *Provided*, That the approbation of one of the first four officers of the General Grand Chapter be first obtained. And said Grand Chapters, by their regular officers, shall assemble in some suitable place, elect their officers, and make such rules and regulations for their government as may be necessary, not inconsistent with the regulations of the General Grand Chapter.

SEC. X. No person shall be permitted to take a seat in any State Grand Chapter as the representative of more than one Chapter, nor unless he is a member of a Subordinate Chapter under that jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III.

OF THE SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

SECTION I. Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons throughout this jurisdiction shall have a Dispensation, as is provided in Section 6 of Article I, or Section 4 of Article II, of this Constitution, or a Charter from the General Grand Chapter, or from some Grand Chapter under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter; and no Chapter shall be deemed legal without such

Dispensation or Charter; and Masonic communication, both public and private, is hereby interdicted and forbidden between any Chapter, or any member of it, and any Chapter or assembly that may be so illegally formed, opened or held, without such Charter, or any or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in such illegal Chapter. But nothing in this section shall be construed to affect any Chapter which was established before the adoption of the Grand Royal Arch Constitution, at Hartford, on the 27th day of January, A. D. 1798.

SEC. II. Whenever a Charter is issued for instituting a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, with a power in said Charter to open and hold Lodges of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons, the High Priest, King and Scribe, for the time being, of such Chapter, shall be the Master and Wardens in said Lodges, according to seniority.

SEC. III. It is incumbent on the High Priest of every Chapter, as appertaining to his office, duty and dignity, to see that the by-laws of his Chapter, as well as the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter, and the regulations of the Grand Chapter, be duly observed; that all his subordinate officers perform the duties of their respective stations faithfully, and are examples of diligence and industry to their Companions; that true and exact records be kept of all the proceedings of the Chapter, by the Secretary; that the Treasurer keep and render exact and just accounts of all moneys belonging to the Chapter; that regular returns be made by the Secretary annually to the Grand Chapter, of the admission of all candidates or members; and that the annual dues to the Grand Chapter be regularly and punctually paid. The Charter of his Chapter is committed to his special care and charge. He has the right and authority of calling his Chapter at pleasure, upon any emergency or occurrence which, in his judgment, may require their meeting, and he is to fill the chair when present. It is likewise his duty, together with his King and Scribe, to attend the regular and special meetings of the Grand Chapter, either in person or by proxy.

SEC. IV. No person, having been a member of a Chapter, shall be admitted a member of any other Chapter under this jurisdiction, until he shall have produced a certificate from the Chapter to which he last belonged, that he was in regular standing, and as such, at his own request, is dismissed and recommended.

SEC. V. That any worthy Companion, from without the jurisdiction of the United States, who may present himself as a Royal Arch Mason, and produce satisfactory evidence of his having received that degree, that each and every Chapter under the jurisdiction of this General Grand Chapter have liberty, and are hereby authorized, to confer the degrees of Mark Master, Past Master and Most Excellent Master on such Companions (who have not heretofore received them), to the end that they may be

healed, and thereby become regular Royal Arch Masons, free of charge.

SEC. VI. That the Subordinate Chapter so conferring said degrees shall be exempt from paying any dues therefor.

SEC. VII. It shall not be deemed regular for any Chapter to confer the degrees of the Chapter upon any person whose fixed place of abode is within any other state in which there is a Chapter regularly established, except by consent of the Chapter nearest the place of residence of said applicant.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SECTION I. Whenever it shall be inconvenient for the General Grand Officers, or the Grand or Deputy Grand High Priests, respectively, to attend in person, to constitute a new Chapter and install the officers, they shall, severally, have power and authority to appoint some worthy High Priest, or Past High Priest, or the High Priest of the same Chapter while it was under Dispensation, when he himself shall have been installed, to perform the necessary ceremonies.

SEC. II. The officers of every Chapter under this jurisdiction, whether Chartered or under Dispensation, before they enter upon the exercise of their respective offices, and also the members of all such Chapters, and every candidate upon his admission into the same, shall take the following obligation: viz., "I, A. B., do promise and swear that I will support and maintain the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America."

SEC. III. This Constitution shall not be altered or amended, unless such alteration or amendment be proposed in writing at one regular meeting of the General Grand Chapter, published among the minutes of the proceedings, and at the next regular meeting receive the approval of two thirds of the members then present.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true copy of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons for the United States of America.

[L. S.] IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have caused the seal of the General Grand Chapter to be hereunto affixed.

Dated at the city of New-Orleans, this first day of November, 1859, and the year of the Order 2393.

SAMUEL G. RISK, *General Grand Secretary*.

A true copy—ATTEST:

HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary*.

REGULATIONS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New-Hampshire, for the better government and regulation of itself, and of the several chapters under its jurisdiction, does ordain and establish the following General and Particular Regulations, as revised June 14, A. L. 5854.

GENERAL REGULATIONS.

ARTICLE I.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New-Hampshire shall consist of the following officers and members : to wit, Grand High Priest, Deputy Grand High Priest, Grand King, Grand Scribe, Grand Treasurer, Grand Secretary, Grand Chaplain, and Grand Captain of the Host, and such other officers, to be appointed by the Grand High Priest, as he shall deem necessary—and likewise of the High Priests, Kings and Scribes, for the time being, of the several Chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter ; and of the Past Grand and Past Deputy Grand High Priests, Kings and Scribes of this Grand Chapter ; and the said enumerated officers, or their Proxies, shall be the only members and voters in this Grand Chapter ; and no companion shall be elected to an office in this Grand Chapter, or be appointed the Proxy of any officer or member, who is not a member of some subordinate Chapter, under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE II.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall meet in Concord, on the Monday next following the first Wednesday of June, annually, at four of the clock in the afternoon, or at such other time and place as the Grand Chapter may, at any annual communication, direct.

ARTICLE III.

The Grand, or Deputy Grand High Priest, for the time being, may at any time call a special meeting of said Grand Chapter, to be held at such time and place as they shall severally think proper to appoint.

ARTICLE IV.

The Officers of this Grand Chapter shall be chosen annually, by ballot, except such as may be appointed by the Grand High Priest, and, if present, shall be duly installed on the day of their election.

ARTICLE V.

All the Grand Officers of this Grand Chapter, at the time of their installation, shall make the following declaration: "I — do most solemnly promise, upon the honor of a Royal Arch Mason, that to the utmost of my knowledge and ability I will strictly comply with all the laws and regulations of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of this State, the Constitution and Edicts of the General Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the United States, and all other Masonic usages."

ARTICLE VI.

In case of the absence of any officer of this Grand Chapter, the officer next in rank shall succeed his superior, unless, through courtesy, said officer should decline in favor of a past superior officer present; and in case of the absence of all the officers from any legal meeting of this Grand Chapter, the highest officer of one of the subordinate Chapters present, preference being given to the oldest Chapter, shall preside.

ARTICLE VII.

No person shall be eligible to the office of Grand High Priest for more than three years successively; and at the time of his election shall be a life member of this Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE VIII.

The Grand Chapter shall have the sole government and superintendence of the several Royal Arch Chapters, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past and Mark Master Masons, within this State. It has power to assign their limits, and settle all controversies between them. It also has authority, under its seal and the sign manual of the Grand High Priest, or Deputy Grand

High Priest, King and Scribe (or their legal Proxies), attested by the Grand Secretary, to constitute new Chapters of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons within its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE IX.

The Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter shall severally have power and authority, during the recess of the Grand Chapter, to grant letters of dispensation, under their respective hands and seals, to a competent number of petitioners possessing the requisite qualifications, empowering them to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, for a term of time not extending beyond the next regular meeting of the Grand Chapter, after the granting of such dispensation.

ARTICLE X.

Every petition for a warrant to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, and Mark Master Masons, within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall be signed by at least nine regular Royal Arch Masons, which petition shall be accompanied by a certificate from the Chapter nearest the place where the new Chapter is intended to be opened, vouching for the moral character and masonic abilities of the petitioners, and recommending to the Grand Chapter to grant them a warrant; and if it shall meet the approbation of this Grand Chapter, a warrant shall be granted them in the manner set forth in Article 9 of this Constitution, and in Article 2d, Section 4th of the Constitution of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

ARTICLE XI.

The fees for a warrant or charter shall be paid to the Grand Treasurer, upon the delivery of the same; and all expenses of the Grand Chapter for the installation of a new Chapter shall be paid by the Chapter installed.

ARTICLE XII.

No warrant shall be granted by this Grand Chapter for holding Lodges of Most Excellent, Past, or Mark Master Masons, independent of a Royal Arch Chapter.

ARTICLE XIII.

The fees for a warrant for holding a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and opening Lodges of Mark Masters, Past Masters, and Most Excellent Masters, shall be one hundred dollars—ninety dollars for the use of this Grand Chapter, and ten dollars to the Grand Secretary, to defray the expenses of executing the same.

ARTICLE XIV.

The several chapters under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall, at the annual meeting of said Grand Chapter, pay for the support thereof, into the hands of the Grand Treasurer, the sum of two dollars for every candidate who shall be exalted in such Chapter.

ARTICLE XV.

Every Chapter of Royal Arch Masons under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter shall, at every meeting of the Grand Chapter, be represented by their High Priest, King and Scribe, or by their respective Proxies, legally appointed; and at every annual meeting of this Grand Chapter shall make a return to the Grand Secretary of the names of their officers and members, and of the candidates by them exalted during the recess of the Grand Chapter, and shall pay over all dues to the Grand Treasurer.

ARTICLE XVI.

No candidate shall receive the several degrees of Mark Master, Past Master, Most Excellent Master, and Royal Arch Mason, in any chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, for a less sum than twenty dollars.

ARTICLE XVII.

All applications for the exaltation or advancement of candidates, in a chapter or lodge under this jurisdiction, shall lie over at least fourteen days for the consideration of the members.

ARTICLE XVIII.

No candidate, residing in a town where a chapter is held under this jurisdiction, shall be exalted in any other chapter within this jurisdiction, without a recommendation from nine members of the chapter nearest the place where said candidates reside, of whom the High Priest, King and Scribe shall in all cases be three.

ARTICLE XIX.

No candidate, whose application may be rejected in any chapter under this jurisdiction, shall be exalted in any chapter other than that to which he first applied, without a recommendation from nine members of said chapter, of whom the High Priest, King and Scribe shall be three; and every chapter under this jurisdiction, shall, by their Secretary, communicate all rejections of candidates to the several chapters under this jurisdiction, and also to this Grand Chapter.

ARTICLE XX.

No person shall be admitted a member of any chapter under this jurisdiction who has not regularly received the several degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, Master Mason, Mark Master Mason, Past Master, Most Excellent Master and Royal Arch Mason.

ARTICLE XXI.

No Royal Arch Mason shall be a member of two separate and distinct chapters, under this jurisdiction, at one and the same time; nor can he become a member of a chapter under this jurisdiction, if, at the same time, he is a member of a chapter which is subject to any State Grand Chapter, under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter of the United States.

ARTICLE XXII.

No chapter or assembly of Royal Arch Masons, that may hereafter be formed within the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, shall be deemed legal without the sanction of a warrant from this Grand Chapter. Masonic communication, either public or private, is hereby strictly forbidden between any chapter or lodge; and any such chapter or lodge that may be so illegally opened, or either of their members, or any person exalted or advanced in any such illegal chapter or lodge.

The punishment for a breach of any part of the above article shall be expulsion and exclusion from the benefits of this Grand Chapter, and all chapters under its jurisdiction.

ARTICLE XXIII.

The High Priest, King and Scribe of any chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter, when unable to attend the meetings of this Grand Chapter in person, shall appoint their proxies, by a commission under their hands; and no companion shall be appointed the proxy of any officer of any chapter under this jurisdiction, who is not a member of the same chapter with the officer appointing him.

PARTICULAR REGULATIONS.

ARTICLE I.

At every meeting of this Grand Chapter, previous to the transaction of any business, the chapter shall be opened in due form.

ARTICLE II.

The officers of subordinate chapters, or their proxies, who attend the meetings of the Grand Chapter, must appear clothed in their proper jewels.

ARTICLE III.

Every officer of a chapter under this jurisdiction who, as such, has a right to sit and vote in this Grand Chapter, shall, in case of his absence at any meeting, have a right to be represented therein by his Proxy, duly appointed, agreeably to Article 24 of the General Regulations. In case of the absence of the High Priest, the King shall wear his jewel, the Scribe shall wear the King's jewel, and the Proxy of the High Priest shall wear the Scribe's jewel; and in the case of the absence of the King, also, the Scribe shall wear his jewel, and the Proxy of the King shall wear the Scribe's jewel.

ARTICLE IV.

Every member of this Grand Chapter, and Proxy thereto, must appear properly clothed with the badges of a Royal Arch Mason.

ARTICLE V.

No companion shall be admitted into this Grand Chapter but members and voters, except petitioners and witnesses, or those called in by motion.

ARTICLE VI.

It shall be the duty of the Grand High Priest, or presiding officer, at the annual meeting of this Grand Chapter, to give, or cause to be given, the Mark and Royal Arch Lectures, that the officers of the several chapters may be fully acquainted therewith, and dispense the knowledge of them in a uniform and regular manner in their several chapters; unless the Grand Chapter otherwise order.

ARTICLE VII.

The accounts of the Treasurer and Secretary shall be audited at every annual meeting of this Grand Chapter, and for their services they shall receive such compensation as this Grand Chapter may deem adequate; and the Secretary and Treasurer shall give bonds, with adequate security, in a sum not less than double the probable amount of moneys in each of their hands during any one year, said bonds, when executed, to be deposited with the Grand High Priest for the time being.

ARTICLE VIII.

All motions made in the Grand Chapter, the decision of which may require to be recorded, shall be handed, in writing, to the presiding officer, before any question is taken upon them.

ARTICLE IX.

Each chapter under this jurisdiction shall have a seal, which shall be affixed to all communications made to this Grand Chapter, and to all credentials which may be given by such chapter to any member thereof; a description of which seal, and the device engraved thereon, shall be transmitted to and recorded by the Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE X.

No vote of the Grand Chapter shall be reconsidered at the same meeting by a less number of voters than were present at passing the same.

ARTICLE XI.

The Grand High Priest, Treasurer and Secretary for the time being shall be a committee to loan the surplus funds of the Grand Chapter, at a rate of interest not exceeding six per cent per annum, taking undoubted security therefor.

ARTICLE XII.

The several subordinate chapters under this jurisdiction shall be numbered, according to priority of dates of their respective charters, in the manner following: viz.,

- Trinity Chapter, Concord, No. 2.
- Washington Chapter, Portsmouth, No. 3.
- Cheshire Chapter, Keene, No. 4.
- Franklin Chapter, Lisbon, No. 5.
- Webb Chapter, Claremont, No. 6.
- Belknap Chapter, Dover, No. 8.
- Mt. Horeb Chapter, Manchester, No. 11.

and other chapters in succession, as they shall be granted.

ARTICLE XIII.

No officer or member of this Grand Chapter shall, in his own right, be entitled to more than one vote.

ARTICLE XIV.

No alteration shall be made in these Regulations, unless the same be first proposed, in writing, at an annual meeting of the Grand Chapter; be published in the journal of its proceedings; transmitted to each chapter under its jurisdiction, and continued to the next succeeding annual meeting of the Grand Chapter, before it is adopted.

A true copy—ATTEST:

HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary.*

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Grand Royal-Arch Chapter
OF THE
STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
AT ITS
Annual Convocations
HELD AT CONCORD,



JUNE 8, 1863, AND JUNE 6, 1864.

MANCHESTER:
PRINTED BY CHARLES F LIVINGSTON,
1864.



= Freemasons, New Hampshire, 1864.
= Arch Masons.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand R. A. Chapter of New-Hampshire,

AT ITS

ANNUAL CONVOCATIONS,

HELD IN CONCORD,



JUNE 8, 1863, AND JUNE 6, 1864.

MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, 16 AND 17 SMYTH'S BLOCK.

1864.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
FOR 1863.

The Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire was held at Concord, on Monday, June 8th, A. D., 1863, A. I. 2393, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

There being present a constitutional number of Grand Officers, the Grand Chapter was opened in ample form by Comp. SAMUEL M. WILCOX, M. E. Grand High Priest.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Resolved, That the reading of the proceedings of the last convocation be dispensed with, as printed copies are in the hands of the members present.

On motion of Comp. D. R. MARSHALL,

Resolved, That when this Grand Chapter shall be called from labor, it be until ten o'clock to-morrow morning, and that eleven o'clock in the forenoon to-morrow be assigned for the election of Grand Officers.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing in this city, be admitted to seats in the Grand Chapter.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed Companions GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, THOS. E. HATCH, and CHAS. H. WOODS, a Committee on Credentials, who subsequently reported the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Members, and Visiting Companions, as being in attendance and entitled to seats, to wit:

GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. SAMUEL M. WILCOX, *Grand High Priest*.

E. E. W. HARRINGTON, *Deputy Gr. High Priest*.

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *Grand Treasurer*.

“ HORACE CHASE, *Grand Secretary*.

“ JAMES ADAMS, *Grand Chaplain*.

“ D. R. MARSHALL, *Grand Master of 3d V.*

“ N. W. CUMNER, *Grand Master of 2d V.*

“ CHAS. H. WOODS, *Grand Master of 1st V.*

“ GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, } *Grand Stewards.*

“ GEO. C. ROBINSON, }

Comp. CHARLES A. ROBINSON, *Grand Tiler*.

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M. E. JONAS LIVINGSTON, *Past Grand High Priest*.

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 2.

CHAS. H. WOODS, *E. King*.

LUTHER M. MORRILL, *E. Scribe*.

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 3.

JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *M. E. High Priest.*

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, No. 4.

THOS. E. HATCH, *M. E. High Priest.*

M. LAMSON, *E. King.*

J. HENRY ELLIOT, *E. Scribe.*

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 5.

WM. H. CUMMINGS, *M. E. High Priest.*

E. C. KNIGHT, *E. King.*

JAS. K. YOUNG, *Proxy for E. Scribe.*

WEBB CHAPTER, No. 6.

JONAS LIVINGSTON, *M. E. High Priest.*

L. J. GRAVES, *Proxy for E. King.*

LEWIS WOODMAN, *Proxy for E. Scribe.*

MERIDIAN SUN CHAPTER, No. 9.

O. H. PHILLIPS, *M. E. High Priest.*

EDWARD PARKER, *Proxy for E. King.*

GEO. H. MARSH, *E. Scribe.*

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 11.

N. W. CUMNER, *M. E. High Priest.*

ISAAC W. SMITH, *Proxy for E. King.*

M. O. PEARSON, *Proxy for E. Scribe.*

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Comps. CHAS. W. HARVEY, L. W. NICHOLS, GEO. P. CLEAVES, HENRY L. HARRIS, JOHN A. HARRIS, P. C.

CAMBRIDGE, JOSIAH MORSE, ALLEN TENNEY, GEO. HILLIARD DAVIS, CHAS. F. BARRETT, H. G. NUTTER, R. H. KIMBALL, SYLVANUS HAYWARD, *Trinity Chapter*; HENRY M. STREETER, SOLON L. WILKINSON, EDWARD GUSTINE, JR., JUDSON FISHER, WM. S. BRIGGS, DON. H. WOODWARD, *Cheshire Chapter*; DAVID ASH, HENRY O. KENT, IRAD TAGGART, NATHAN K. PERKINS, HORACE E. CHAMBERLIN, *Franklin Chapter*; VIRGIL CHASE, R. S. STUBBS, *Webb Chapter*; WM. WHITE, *Meridian Sun Chapter*; S. B. BURNHAM, GEO. W. THAYER, *Mount Horeb Chapter*; JOHN SHEVILLE, *Enterprise Chapter, New Jersey*; WILSON L. WOLF, *King Solomon's Chapter, Vt.*; DANIEL F. RICHARDSON, SETH JOHNSON, *Windsor Chapter, Vt.*

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor until ten o'clock to-morrow A. M.

TUESDAY, JUNE 9th, 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Grand Chapter re-assembled and was called to order and resumed labor. Present, as of yesterday.

The M. E. Grand High Priest announced the following Standing Committees:

Committee on Chapters. — Comps. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, N. W. CUMNER, W. H. CUMMINGS.

Committee on Finance. — Comps. JAMES LIVINGSTON, J. H. ELLIOT, O. H. PHILLIPS.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then read the following

ADDRESS.

In accordance with ancient custom, we are once again assembled in Annual Convocation, to exchange fraternal greetings, and to take counsel together for the good of

our Order. Another year has become numbered with the past — a year fruitful in experiences and big with events, whose influence shall be felt in coming ages : events and experiences ever to be remembered, and whose lessons, if read aright, will prove the guiding pillar of fire by night and cloud by day, to direct our onward course.

In retracing those events we cannot, either as men or Masons, be unmindful of the mighty struggle which is stirring the great heart of our nation, the magnitude of which we, I fear, who are so far from the din and carnage of the battle-field, scarcely, as yet, appreciate.

Prominent before us is the spectacle of a monster rebellion, wicked and causeless, striving to overthrow the sacred fabric which our fathers built and hallowed with their best blood, and to lay unholy hands upon the government which we are bound to protect and defend ; a contest in which we have important duties to perform, and of momentous importance to us both as citizens and as Masons. As citizens, because our very national existence is at stake ; as Masons, because masonry countenances no disloyalty or rebellion against the government under whose protection we live.

“In the State you are to be a quiet and peaceful subject, true to your government and just to your country. You are not to countenance disloyalty or rebellion, but patiently submit to legal authority. As a citizen, you are enjoined to be exemplary in the discharge of your civil duties by never proposing or countenancing any act which may have a tendency to subvert the peace and good order of society, by paying a due obedience to the laws under whose protection we live, and by never losing sight of the allegiance due to our country.”

Such is the charge which was given to every one of us

upon our first admission into the fraternity, and which is given to every one who crosses our masonic threshold, and in times like these it should be written in letters of gold upon the walls of every lodge-room, and it seems to me that I should be false to my position, my duty to you, and the lessons of the past, did I not here and now re-iterate the charge to you to be true to your early masonic teachings, true to your government, never losing sight of the allegiance due to your country.

Set your faces like flint against all disloyalty and rebellion wherever found; for this is the duty which, as Masons, we owe to God, to our country, to the fraternity and ourselves. To the fraternity and ourselves, because we are bound by every tie of honor to exemplify in our lives and conduct the lessons and charges which have been, from time immemorial, taught in our Order.

In times like these especially, let us resolve to do our whole duty as men and Masons, and if any shall knowingly or wittingly fail in his duty, or prove false to the spirit of our ancient charges, purge yourselves of him so effectually that no more remembrance of him shall remain among good men or Masons forever.

But while contentions have distracted us as citizens, I rejoice to say that, so far as I have learned, no strife or contention has arisen among the workmen in our masonic jurisdiction. We have now but eight working Chapters under our jurisdiction, and unless some old charter should be revived and restored, there is not much prospect of an increase, as the fee for a charter, coupled with other necessary expenses in organizing a working Chapter, is almost prohibitory. With our present limited number, however, it would seem to be a good time to make some arrangement by which each Chapter should be visited at

least once a year by the Grand High Priest or his Deputy. The object of such visits should be to inspect their mode of work, their records, and their condition generally, the results to be reported to this G. C., and I have no doubt such a course would be attended with very beneficial results. It would be too much of a tax upon your officers to require them to do this at their own expense, and perhaps too burdensome for those Chapters which were located at a considerable distance from your presiding officer; but in such case the G. C. might assume a proportion of the expense, and with this exception, provide that each Chapter should pay the actual expenses; or the G. C. might assume the whole. I suggest the matter for your consideration and for such action as may seem best to you.

In accordance with the vote of the G. C., at its last convocation, the set of jewels and regalia have been filled up, and we trust to your satisfaction.

I have received during the year several applications for a dispensation to confer the Chapter degrees, without waiting the usual time. The G. C. at the convocation of 1860 (Proc. p. 112), indirectly denied the right, and I therefore felt constrained to decline granting the applications. It will be found that many of our sister G. C.'s have affirmed that power. It is a power which ought and would not be exercised except in cases of extreme emergency, such as would approve itself to the sound discretion of your G. H. P., so that there can be no danger in allowing the authority to him. But how the question may be decided is of less importance than that it should be settled positively, so that there may be no misunderstanding about it.

In some of the Chapters in our jurisdiction, nearly all

their business is transacted and ballots taken in the Mark Lodge. The inconsistencies attending such a course are so evident that but little need be said. It seems to me to be directly in conflict with well-established masonic law and usage, and should be so declared. The only reason I ever heard given for it was, that it was more convenient, as there were not always enough present to open a R. A. Chapter. Something like, a year's experience in what was then our youngest and smallest Chapter, but one by no means behind in other respects, conclusively satisfied me of the fallacy of such an excuse, and it struck me that such a reason, coming from a Chapter of over a hundred members, was none of the best. Such a piece of work would scarcely get beyond the first overseer's square. If I were H. P. of such a Chapter, I think the business would accumulate until the members had an ample opportunity to accumulate interest enough to do it properly and regularly. Irregularities sometimes creep into Chapters because the H. P. fails to use the proper instrument to correct them. Good nature or a desire to please, should never prevent the H. P. from using the mallet effectually upon all such.

About the 20th of August last I received, through our R. E. Grand Secretary, a circular from the D. G. H. P. and G. G. King of the G. G. C., setting forth the impossibility of holding the regular Triennial Convocation of the G. G. C., at the time and place fixed by that Grand Body; but making no postponement of it to any specified time, and calling no meeting at any other place; but on the contrary, recommending and urging that no such meeting should be held. The circular further stated that they should not attend such meeting, and urged it upon the State G. C.'s not to attend, and closing with the re-

quest that the several G. C's would express their opinion upon the propriety of their action.

The G. C. Constitution, art. 1, sec. 1, provides for a Triennial Convocation of the G. G. C., to be holden on the second Tuesday of September, at such place as shall from time to time be designated, and if in the opinion of the G. G. H. P., or in case of his absence or death, of the senior G. Officer, there shall be danger to life or health from sickness or other local cause, by any meeting being held at the time and place appointed, the time of the particular meeting may be changed to some subsequent time.

The regular triennial session was appointed by the G. G. C. to be holden on the second Tuesday of Sept. last, at Memphis, Tenn. The circular is signed by the only two Grand Officers who were not in danger of life and health from a local cause.

It being impossible to hold the meeting at the time and place designated, and the properly constituted authorities declining to appoint any other time or place, there was no convocation to be attended, and after the positive announcement that they should not attend, it seems to me that the expression of opinion called for would be a mere criticism upon an act done, and therefore I did not deem it worth the while to undertake to express my own, or the opinion of this G. C. in the premises.

By reference to the proceedings of the various State Grand Chapters, and the report of your own Committee on Foreign Correspondence, you will find that for a series of years the G. G. Chapter has been a serious bone of contention amongst the craft in the different States, and quite a number of the State G. C's, among whom is our sister of Vermont, have withdrawn from it; and so far as

my observation has extended, its grand result has been a wordy contention, oftentimes too sharp and bitter to be masonic. Whether such a result is worth all the trouble to reach it is for you to determine.

As the matter now stands we may well enough assume that that body is virtually dissolved by the action, or rather non-action, of the remaining G. G. Officers. It has always seemed to me that the State Grand Chapters, like the State G. L's, should be the highest court of appeal to settle all questions which may arise, and that a G. G. C. was about as useful as the fifth wheel to a coach, which might be highly ornamental, but of no possible practical use.

The history of the G. G. Chapter for the last ten years will demonstrate that it has accomplished practically nothing. A continent of paper and a sea of ink have been wasted in arguments pro and con, but practical results are wanting, and I am firmly of the opinion that we should be better off to follow our sister of Vermont. I have too much faith in the craft to believe that we need to keep it as an escape-pipe for our accumulating polemical steam, which seems to be about the only practical use which has been made of it; but still, while I express my opinion thus frankly and freely, I am ready to abide by whatever decision you may make.

And now Companions you will please accept my thanks for the preference shown me in selecting me as your presiding officer, as well as for the uniform courtesy and kindness displayed during my official term. My own private cares demand that I should decline a re-election, and I have no doubt you will readily find one more worthy upon whom to bestow your favors.

SAM. M. WILCOX, G. H. P.

Which on motion was referred to the Committee on Chapters.

The hour assigned for that purpose having arrived, proceeded to the election of Grand Officers for the year ensuing, and on balloting the following Companions were severally declared duly elected :

EDWARD W. HARRINGTON, Manchester, *M. E. G. H. P.*

JOHN R. HOLBROOK, Portsmouth, *E. Dep. G. H. P.*

THOMAS E. HATCH, Keene, *E. G. King.*

WM. H. CUMMINGS, Lisbon, *E. G. Scribe.*

JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *E. G. Treasurer.*

HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *E. G. Secretary.*

JAMES ADAMS, Raymond, *E. G. Chaplain.*

N. W. CUMNER, Manchester, *E. G. Capt. of the Host.*

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor till two o'clock in the afternoon.

AFTERNOON.

At two o'clock the Grand Chapter reassembled and was called to labor.

The M. E. G. High Priest elect made the following appointments :

LEWIS WOODMAN, Claremont, *Prin. Sojourner.*

D. R. MARSHALL, Nashua, *R. A. Captain.*

CHARLES H. WOODS, Concord, *Master of 3d V.*

OLIVER WYATT, Dover, *Master of 2d V.*

C. H. PHILLIPS, Dover, *Master of 1st V.*

GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, Lisbon, } *Stewards.*

GEO. C. ROBINSON, Concord, }

CHAS. A. ROBINSON, Concord, *Tiler.*

On motion proceeded to the Installation of Grand Officers.

The M. E. Grand High Priest elect, after being himself installed by M. E. SAML. M. WILCOX, proceeded and installed the other officers in ample form.

M. E. Comp. SAML. M. WILCOX offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That article 2 of the Grand Regulations be amended by striking out the words "on Monday next following the first Wednesday of June, at four o'clock in the afternoon," and inserting instead thereof, "on the second Tuesday of July annually, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon."

Which was ordered to be put on file and lay over for consideration until the next Annual Convocation.

REPORT ON CHAPTERS.

The Committee on Chapters having very briefly considered some of the suggestions in the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, together with the subjects ordinarily coming before that committee, submit the following report :

In regard to annual visits by the High Priest or Deputy High Priest to all the subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction, the committee recommend this Grand Chapter to authorize such visits, and that the actual expenses of the same be paid out of the funds of the Grand Chapter; believing that such visits will conduce to the improvement and uniformity of work and lectures, and

stimulate subordinate Chapters to a greater proficiency and accuracy in their work. The subject of granting dispensations in certain cases, although at some former meetings discountenanced, we can see no valid reason why it may not safely and properly be committed to the care of the proper officers of the Grand Chapter, and be granted by them when cases of emergency shall be presented. We therefore recommend for this purpose the passage of the following order :

That the M. E. Grand High Priest may by himself or Deputy, in cases of emergency, grant dispensations authorizing subordinate Chapters to receive application for Chapter degrees, refer the same, act and ballot upon it, and confer the degrees at the same or any subsequent meeting.

We find from the returns made by the several Chapters under this jurisdiction, the number of exaltations and members as follows :

Trinity Chapter, No. 2,	21	Exalt.	105	Memb.
Washington Chapter, 3,	7	"	59	"
Cheshire Chapter, 4,	8	"	39	"
Franklin Chapter, 5,	5	"	65	"
Webb Chapter, 6,	9	"	90	"
Belknap Chapter, 8,	8	"	128	"
Meridian Sun Chapter, 9,	2	"	48	"
Mount Horeb Chapter, 11,	19	"	133	"
	<hr/>		<hr/>	
	79	"	667	"

JOHN R. HOLBROOK, } Committee
 N. W. CUMNER, } on
 W. H. CUMMINGS, } Chapters.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance report that they have examined the accounts of the Grand Treasurer and find he has charged himself as follows :

Amount on hand as per report of last	
year, - - - - -	\$329 90
Balance of interest at 5 per cent., -	9 00
Cash received this day of G. Secretary,	160 00
	<hr/>
	498 90

They have examined the following bills
which they find correct and recom-
mend to be paid :

McFarland & Jenks, for printing, -	\$90 25
Samuel M. Wilcox's bill, - -	5 25
Charles A. Robinson, for tiling, - -	4 00
Grand Secretary, balance his acct.,	29 53
Gr. Sec'y, receipt for contingent fund, -	15 00
Grand Secretary, by vote of Chapter,	15 00
A. W. Pollard, for aprons, - -	24 75
R. C. Thompson, bill of collars, -	35 00
A. W. Pollard, bill of jewels, - -	60 00
	<hr/>
	278 78
	<hr/>
Balance of cash on hand, - - -	\$220 12

JAMES LIVINGSTON,
For the Committee.

There being no further business, the Grand Chapter was closed in due form.

A true record.—Attest :

HORACE CHASE,

Grand Secretary.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
FOR 1864.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of the State of New-Hampshire was held in Concord, on Monday the 6th day of June, A. D., 1864, A. I., 2394, at 4 o'clock, P. M.

A quorum of the Grand Officers and members being present, the Grand Chapter was opened by the M. E. Gr. High Priest, with prayer by E. JAMES ADAMS, Grand Chaplain, in ample form.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Voted, That all Royal Arch Masons in regular standing as such be admitted to seats in this Grand Chapter.

The proceedings of the last convocation were read by the Grand Secretary and approved.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter shall be called from labor, it shall be to eleven o'clock to-morrow, in the

forenoon, and that the Grand Chapter go into the election of Grand Officers to-morrow at twelve o'clock, noon.

Comps. LEWIS WOODMAN, N. W. CUMNER, and L. W. NICHOLS, were appointed a Committee on Credentials.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor until eleven o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, JUNE 8th, 1864.

The Grand Chapter re-assembled at 11 o'clock, A. M., and resumed labor. Present as yesterday, with the addition of several members and visiting Companions.

The proposition to change the time for holding the Annual Convocations of this Grand Chapter, offered at the last Annual Convocation by Comp. WILCOX, was taken up, when on motion of Comp. H. CHASE the further consideration of said proposed change was postponed until the next Annual Convocation, and Comps. CHASE, KNOWLTON, and G. CUMMINGS were appointed a committee to confer with similar committees from the Grand Lodge and Grand Commandery, to take into consideration the subject of changing the time for the annual meetings of all those Grand Bodies.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then read the following

A D D R E S S.

COMPANIONS OF THE GRAND CHAPTER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE: Another year has passed, and to-day we have again come together to celebrate the time-honored Annual Convocation of our Order. It has been a year of sorrow and sadness to many, and of gloom and anxiety to us all; a year of contests and battles, of civil and political

commotions, threatening danger to our institutions, our hopes, and our liberties.

In times like these the principles of our Order appear more ennobling, and the peace that reigns in our Temple more holy, by contrast with treachery, turmoil and strife that is prevalent in the land; principles stronger and deeper than the passions of combatants in deadly strife, and which can, even upon the battlefield, stay the uplifted hand of a hostile foe and spare a brother's life, and minister to the wants and necessities of a brother in hospital or prison, though that brother be recognized as a public enemy.

From these scenes, fraught with gloomy recollections of the past and doubtful forebodings of the future, let us turn to the exercises of this hour with a stronger desire to practice, exemplify and disseminate the virtues and principles laid down by the Supreme Grand Ruler of the Universe, upon which rests the Temple of Freemasonry, and let us, with an undoubting trust in that Providence which has spared us during the past year, earnestly labor for the triumph of these principles, that peace and prosperity may again dawn upon us as a people and bless our land.

During the past year but little has occurred requiring official action on my part. On the 29th of February last I visited Cheshire Royal Arch Chapter, No. 4, and found it in a prosperous and flourishing condition. The Companions of this Chapter are entitled to commendation for their energy and enterprise. It was revived about four years ago. They have now a fine and convenient hall, and an efficient membership. I found their meetings well attended, and their work correct, and the pleasure of my visit was greatly enhanced by the presence of our ven-

erable Companion PRENTISS, who has wrought for more than sixty years in our mystic art, and with whom I passed a very agreeable hour.

On the 10th day of May last I visited Washington Chapter, No. 3, Portsmouth. This is one of the oldest Chapters in the State, and I found it, as it ever has been, harmonious and flourishing. The officers were well versed in the duties of their several stations, and here also I found quite a number who had long wrought in the quarries. The presence of such, by their example and experience, is of great value and assistance to the younger and inexperienced Companions in every Chapter, and let us hope that those Companions who have for many years trod the rough and rugged paths of life, may yet be long spared to bless us with their presence and instruct us by their example. The other Chapters in the State I have not had the pleasure of visiting, with the exception of course of Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 11, but I have no doubt favorable accounts will be received from them to-day.

I am happy to report that I have granted but three dispensations during the year. Undoubtedly cases will occasionally arise when the degrees properly may be, and necessarily must be, conferred by dispensation; but I cannot forbear expressing the opinion that a frequent practice of conferring degrees by dispensation would be one of dangerous tendency.

And now, Companions, as my official year is closing I wish to return to this Grand Body and to each member thereof, my sincere thanks for the honor which you have been pleased to confer upon me, and for the uniform courtesy and kindness which I have received during the continuance of my official relations. Circumstances and

my engagements are such as to render it inconvenient for me to occupy my present position another year ; therefore I respectfully decline a re-election, feeling assured that when I transmit the interests of this Grand Chapter to the hands of the worthy Companion whom your choice may elect, the honor and dignity of our institution will be safely and securely guarded, and its prosperity and usefulness perpetuated undiminished and unimpaired.

E. W. HARRINGTON.

Comp. H. CHASE offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the order passed at the Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter, in June last, authorizing the M. E. Grand High Priest and E. Deputy G. High Priest, to grant dispensations to subordinate Chapters in emergent cases, to confer the Chapter degrees short of the time required by the Grand Regulations, be rescinded, and that hereafter no such power be exercised by any Grand Officer of this Grand Chapter.

Which resolution was debated, and the question being taken on its adoption it was decided in the negative ; so the resolution was lost.

The petition of Comps. JOHN H. STEELE and others for a new Chapter in Peterborough, was presented and referred to the Committee on Chapters.

The Committee on Credentials made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Credentials ask leave to report the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, members,

and visiting Companions in attendance and entitled to seats in this Grand Chapter.

GRAND OFFICERS.

- COMP. E. W. HARRINGTON, *M. E. G. High Priest.*
 “ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *E. Dep. G. High Priest.*
 “ THOS. E. HATCH, *E. Grand King.*
 “ JOHN KNOWLTON, *E. Grand Treasurer.*
 “ HORACE CHASE, *E. Grand Secretary.*
 “ JAMES ADAMS, *E. Grand Chaplain.*
 “ N. W. CUMNER, *E. G. C. of the Host.*
 “ LEWIS WOODMAN, *E. G. P. S.*
 “ D. R. MARSHALL, *E. R. A. C.*
 “ GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, *E. G. S. S.*
 “ CHARLES A. ROBINSON, *G. Tiler.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

- COMP. JOHN KNOWLTON, *P. M. E. High Priest.*
 “ PHILEMON TOLLES, “ “ “

MEMBERS.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 2.

- THOS. J. SANBORN, *Proxy for High Priest.*
 LUTHER W. NICHOLS, *Proxy for King.*

WASHINGTON CHAPTER, No. 3.

- JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *High Priest.*
 W. FREEMAN, *Proxy for King.*

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, No. 4.

- THOMAS E. HATCH, *High Priest.*
 WILLIAM LAMSON, *King.*
 E. F. LANE, *Proxy for Scribe.*

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 5.

HAZEN BEDEL, *Proxy for High Priest.*EZRA C. KNIGHT, *King.*DAVID ASH, *Proxy for Scribe.*

WEBB CHAPTER, No. 6.

LEWIS WOODMAN, *High Priest.*SAM. L. GARDNER, *Proxy for King.*ICHABOD HITCHCOCK, *Scribe.*

BELKNAP CHAPTER, No. 8.

OLIVER WYATT, *Proxy for High Priest.*SAML. M. WHEELER, *King.*

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 11.

N. W. CUMNER, *High Priest.*JOHN D. PATTERSON, *King.*S. D. HILL, *Proxy for Scribe.*

VISITING COMPANIONS.

W. W. TAYLOR, A. J. CANFIELD, JAMES TEMPLETON,
 CHARLES BARNS, *Trinity Chapter, No. 2*; E. GUSTINE,
Cheshire Chapter, No. 4; CHARLES S. PLAISTED,
Franklin Chapter, No. 5; LEONARD J. GROVER, *Webb*
Chapter, No. 6; G. W. THAYER, B. F. BOWLES, *Mount*
Horeb Chapter, No. 11; HORACE G. CHASE, *Lafayette*
Chapter, No. 2, Ill.; JOHN H. STEELE.

LEWIS WOODMAN,	}	Committee.
N. W. CUMNER,		
L. W. NICHOLS,		

The M. E. Grand High Priest then announced the following Standing Committees :

Committee on Chapters.—Comps. GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, WASHINGTON FREEMAN, J. D. PATTERSON.

Committee on Finance.—Comps. WM. LAMSON, THOS. J. SANBORN, D. R. MARSHALL.

REPORTS OF GRAND OFFICERS.

The E. Deputy Grand High Priest and E. Grand King severally made reports, which were read and referred to the Committee on Chapters.

REPORT OF THE E. DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

To the M. E. Grand R. A. Chapter of New-Hampshire :

Having been requested by the M. E. G. High Priest to visit officially Belknap Chapter, No. 8, at Dover, and Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 11, at Manchester, and having attended to that duty I submit the following report :

In May last I visited Belknap Chapter at a special convocation, and witnessed the conferring of the Royal Arch degree. The work was well done, all the officers being well posted and prompt in the discharge of their respective duties. The Chapter is in a good and prosperous condition.

June 2d I visited Mount Horeb Chapter and witnessed their work in the Royal Arch degree, the M. E. Grand High Priest being also present. The work in this Chapter was admirably done. The officers understand their duties and are prompt in the performance of them. The records are properly kept and the funds well cared for.

The work as performed in Belknap and Mount Horeb-

Chapters, is the same as practiced in Washington Chapter, of which I am a member, and is, I think, as uniform as can be.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN R. HOLBROOK, D. G. H. P.

REPORT OF E. GRAND KING.

To the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire:

In accordance with the vote passed at the last Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, requiring the M. E. Grand High Priest to visit each Chapter in the State once during the year, either personally or by Deputy, I have, as his Deputy, visited the following named Chapters:

October 19th, 1863, I visited Webb Chapter, No. 6, at Claremont, and witnessed the work on the several degrees. This Chapter is one of the few which continued to work during the dark days of masonry, and has therefore an unusually large proportion of old Masons among its working members, honorable alike for their zeal, fidelity and attachment to masonry, and their upright and regular conduct in the daily walks of life. I found the financial condition of this Chapter good, and the average attendance of members fair. The work was not in strict accordance with that adopted by this Grand Chapter, but the discrepancies were slight and immaterial, otherwise than leading to uniformity of work throughout the State.

March 14, 1864, I visited Franklin Chapter, No. 5, at Lisbon. This Chapter was revived in 1859, after having lain dormant for a long period. I found its present condition and future prospects flattering, so far as wealth and numbers are concerned. It however labors under the disadvantage of holding jurisdiction over a large and some-

what sparsely inhabited territory. The candidates are not unfrequently obliged to travel sixty miles to attend the convocations, thereby showing a commendable zeal in the pursuit of masonic knowledge, but necessarily rendering their after attendance very irregular. A portion only of the officers of this Chapter are residents of Lisbon, which adds another element of uncertainty to their convocations. Owing to these circumstances it is frequently found necessary to shorten and condense the work on a portion of the degrees to such an extent as materially to injure the harmony and beauty of the whole.

I wish here to record my earnest protest against the too great dependence upon and liberal use of rituals during the hours of labor, a fault which I noticed in both these Chapters.

No one should accept an office in any masonic body, who is unable or unwilling to devote the requisite time and labor to a thorough preparation for its duties; nor should he shrink from occasional inconvenience and sacrifice if necessary, rather than be absent from his station at any regular or special meeting. This disregard of their obligations, so often shown by officers of Chapters by want of punctuality in attendance and proficiency in their duties, gives our ancient institution more dangerous wounds in the house of its friends, than it is possible for it to receive from its bitterest enemies.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. E. HATCH, G. K.

The time assigned for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, Comps. LEWIS WOODMAN and OLIVER WYATT were appointed a committee to collect, count and

declare the state of the votes ; proceeded to ballot for Grand Officers for the year ensuing, when M. E. W. HARRINGTON was declared duly elected G. High Priest, who positively declined to accept, and on a second balloting Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK of Portsmouth was declared duly elected.

Upon continuing the balloting the following Companions were severally declared duly elected :

COMP. THOS. E. HATCH, Keene, *E. Dep. G. H. Priest.*

“ WM. H. CUMMINGS, Lisbon, *Gr. King.*

“ N. W. CUMNER, Manchester, *Gr. Scribe.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *Gr. Treasurer.*

“ HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *Gr. Secretary.*

“ JAMES ADAMS, Candia, *Gr. Chaplain.*

“ D. R. MARSHALL, Nashua, *Gr. Capt. of the Host.*

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor until two o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON.

At two o'clock the Grand Chapter re-assembled and was called to labor.

The Grand High Priest elect was then duly installed by M. E. W. HARRINGTON.

After his installation the G. High Priest made the following appointments of Grand Officers :

COMP. LEWIS WOODMAN, Claremont, *G. P. Sojourner.*

“ L. W. NICHOLS, Concord, *G. R. A. Captain.*

“ WASHINGTON FREEMAN, Portsmouth, *G. M. 3d V.*

“ OLIVER WYATT, Dover, *G. M. of 2d V.*

“ EZRA C. KNIGHT, Lisbon, *G. M. of 1st V.*

- “ GEO. P. CLEAVES, Concord, *Gr. Sen. Steward.*
- “ S. D. HILL, Manchester, *Gr. Jr. Steward.*
- “ CHAS. A. ROBINSON, Concord, *Gr. Tiler.*

The M. E High Priest installed the remaining elected and appointed officers, excepting Comps. WM. H. CUMMINGS, JAMES ADAMS, OLIVER WYATT, EZRA C. KNIGHT and GEO. P. CLEAVES, who were not present.

On motion,

Voted, That the proceedings of the Grand Chapter for 1863 and 1864 be printed and distributed in the usual manner.

Comp. H. CHASE offered the following preamble and resolution which were adopted :

WHEREAS, the Order of High Priesthood is an acknowledged Order of Masonry, intimately connected with Royal Arch Masonry, and whereas there is now in this State a regularly organized Council of High Priests, therefore

Resolved, That the proceedings of the convention in organizing a Council of High Priests and subsequent proceedings of the Council, be published in connection with the proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

REPORT ON CHAPTERS.

The Committee on Chapters, to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest and reports of the E. Dep. G. High Priest and G. King, report: That the limited amount of time which they could devote to a consideration of said address and reports, has not enabled them to discover any topics of special interest

embraced therein which would seem to require a recommendation upon their part of any particular action by this Grand Chapter. They have no doubt that the Order in this State, during the past year, has sustained itself, and probably in many respects has shown a marked advancement over many years preceding.

Such being our present condition, it would seem to be of doubtful expediency for us to recommend to adopt much by way of mere experiment. Upon the whole, the committee conclude in submitting the result of this portion of their labors, to recommend to this Grand Chapter to let well enough alone.

The committee submit as the statistical portion of their report, the following as the result of operations for the past year, as also the present condition of the various working organizations of the Order under this jurisdiction, viz :

Trinity Chapter,	No. 2,	13 Exalt.	108 Memb.
Washington Chapter,	3,	18 "	70 "
Cheshire Chapter,	4,	12 "	54 "
Franklin Chapter,	5,	26 "	102 "
Webb Chapter,	6,	5 "	92 "
Belknap Chapter,	8,	14 "	138 "
Meridian Sun Chapter,	9,	5 "	47 "
Mt. Horeb Chapter,	11,	11 "	121 "
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		104 "	732 "

The committee further report that they have considered the petition referred to them of JOHN H. STEELE and others for a warrant to open a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons in Peterborough, and recommend that a warrant of Con-

stitution be granted in accordance with their petition by the officers of this Grand Chapter, as soon as a certificate shall have been filed in the office of the Grand Secretary in accordance with article 10 of the General Regulations of this Grand Chapter.

GREENLEAF CUMMINGS,
WASHINGTON FREEMAN, } Committee.
J. D. PATTERSON,

Which report was accepted and recommendation adopted.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance have attended to their duty and report that they find the Grand Treasurer chargeable as follows :

To cash in his hands as by settlement	
of last year, - - - -	\$220 12
To balance of interest to June 7, 1864,	9 84
	<hr/>
	229 96

Discharged as follows :

June 9th, 1863. By cash paid G. Sec.,	
Contingent Fund, - - -	\$15 00
By error in account, - - -	2 00
“ cash paid Morrill & Silsby, -	6 25
	<hr/>
	23 25
	<hr/>
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer,	\$206 71
June 7th, 1864. By cash of G. Sec'y,	208 00
	<hr/>
	\$414 71

Amount brought over, \$414 71

The committee recommend the payment
of the following bills ;

June 7, 1864.	McFarland & Jenks' bill	\$1 50	
	Morrill & Silsby's "	2 00	
	Grand Tiler, two days,	4 00	
	Thos. E. Hatch,	16 35	
	Wm. Butterfield,	7 50	
	G. Sec. balance,	23 68	
	1 per ct. on amount in		
	G. Treas. hands,	4 38	
			<hr/>
			59 41
			<hr/>
	Balance in hands of G. Treasurer this day,	\$355 30	

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM LAMSON,	} Committee.
THOMAS J. SANBORN,	
DANIEL R. MARSHALL,	

June 7, 1864.

Which report was accepted and bills recommended ordered to be paid.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence having failed to make report, it was voted that Comp. H. CHASE prepare a report and submit it to the G. High Priest for his approval before publication.

On motion,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer pay to M. E. Comp. E. W. HARRINGTON the sum of eleven dollars forty cents, being his expenses for postage, &c., for the past year.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Voted, That the thanks of this Grand Chapter be tendered to Blazing Star Lodge for the use of their hall during this convocation.

There being no further business the Grand Chapter was closed in ample form.

A true record. Attest:

HORACE CHASE,
Grand Secretary.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

June, 1864.

Names.	Location.	No.	Members.	Exaltations.	Dues.	High Priests.	Secretaries.
TRINITY,	Concord,	2	108	13	26	CHARLES W. HARVEY.	JOSEPH W. HILDRETH.
WASHINGTON,	Portsmouth,	3	70	18	36	JOHN R. HOLBROOK.	OLIVER G. FERNALD.
CHESHIRE,	Keene,	4	54	12	24	THOS. E. HATCH.	GEORGE S. WOODWARD.
FRANKLIN,	Lisbon,	5	102	26	52	WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS.	GREENLEAF CUMMINGS.
WEBB,	Claremont,	6	92	5	10	LEWIS WOODMAN.	S. F. REDFIELD.
BELKNAP,	Dover,	8	138	14	28	THOMAS SPEERLIN.	WILLIAM R. TAPLEY.
MERIDIAN SUN,	Nashua,	9	47	5	10	JOHN D. CHANDLER.	WILLIAM WHITE.
MOUNT HOREB,	Manchester,	11	121	11	22	N. W. CUMNER.	SAMUEL B. KIDDER.
No. of Chapters, ..		8	732	104	208		

A P P E N D I X .

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The committee have received, and to some limited extent examined, the proceedings of the following Grand Chapters, to-wit: California, Canada, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland and District of Columbia, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont and Wisconsin, all of the year of 1863.

The result of their examination the committee embody in the following report, and as being more methodical they will consider these proceedings in their order.

CALIFORNIA.

This Grand Chapter held its tenth Annual Convocation in San Francisco, May 7, 1863. Twenty-five out of thirty-two subordinate Chapters in that jurisdiction were represented.

The Grand Chapter was opened with a brief address by the M. E. ADOLPHUS HOLLUB, Grand High Priest.

We extract from his address his remarks upon the deadly conflict now raging in our once happy and prosperous country :

“ When last we met we indulged the hope that before the assembling of this convocation, peace and quiet would be established in our beloved country. Alas! that hope has not been realized. Daily we hear that friends, neighbors, members of the same family, are arrayed against each other in deadly conflict. Our beloved Order has not escaped the contagion. Grand High Priests, deeming it their duty to obey their country's call, have left their jurisdictions,—not like Melcheizedek, robed in the habilaments of peace, but, sword in hand, threatening destruction to the foe without distinction. This picture is a sad and gloomy one, but the Mason's heart is cheered by the knowledge that in this bloody strife the holy teachings of our Order are not lost sight of. The Grand Master of South Carolina, in a circular issued at the request of his Grand Lodge to the craft in his jurisdiction, says: “ I charge every one of you, in the name of our Supreme and Universal Grand Master, to be mindful how you are bound in certain duties whereunto you have called Him to witness your obligations and performance, who will hereafter judge. I charge you in His great name, and in view of His final day, suffer not the disputes and broils of men to impair the harmony which has existed, and will exist throughout the fraternity; for whether or not you put to shame the teachings of our craft, they can not be annulled, nor despite evil members who may pain us, can the body of our faithful brotherhood be annihilated or destroyed, or even as much as paralyzed. * * * Let us not hear among us that there is war, that strife and dissensions prevail; as Masons it concerns us not.”

These extracts breathe the true spirit of masonry as inculcated at our altars. Masonic relations should not be interrupted by religious or political convulsions. Masons should never forget that they are brothers. If our fraternity throughout the Union had always borne this great truth in mind, we might ere this have had the proud satisfaction of beholding it the handmaiden of peace—a powerful instrument in reuniting that chain which never should have been severed—in calming the elements which now convulse our beloved land. The hope that this result may yet be accomplished has not faded away. That it may be brought about should be the dearest wish of every Mason's heart, and the great duty to which his life should be devoted.”

In reference to the secession of some of the Grand Chapters from their allegiance to the General Grand

Chapter of the United States he thus very forcibly remarks :

"I cannot, however, refrain from alluding to the inconsistencies exhibited by certain Grand Chapters in passing resolutions condemning the unnatural rebellion in which a portion of the States are engaged, and in adopting others, severing their own connection with the General Grand Chapter, thus, in one breath, almost, condemning political and approving masonic secession. How these acts, contradictory in themselves, can be reconciled, I do not know. Both are, in my opinion, in direct violation of Masonic law and principle, and ought to be discountenanced by all good Masons."

From a statistical table we learn that there are within that jurisdiction thirty-two subordinate Chapters, one thousand one hundred and forty-seven members, and during the year ninety-four exaltations. After making disbursements to the amount of \$4336,50 they had an excess of one year's receipts of \$584,04 to deposit in a well-filled treasury. In financial matters, then, our California Companions are not only rich but well to live.

Their Committee on Grievances reported that nothing had been submitted for their consideration,—a proof that they have nothing to grieve for, are at peace among themselves, "with all the world and the rest of mankind."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is an able and impartial review of the proceedings of seventeen Grand Chapters, by Comp. LAWRENCE C. OWEN, to whom great obligations are *owing*.

M. E. EZRA H. VAN DECAR, of Auburn, was elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. LAWRENCE C. OWEN, of San Francisco, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

The Grand Chapter of Canada held its sixth Annual Convocation in Toronto, on the 11th of August, 1863. The subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction number as high as twenty-five; eleven were represented in the Grand Chapter, and twenty-one made returns. No statistics are furnished us by which we may judge of the increase of Capitular Masonry within this jurisdiction, as the returns give only the names of the three or four first officers and number of members. The reports of the Grand Superintendents, with one exception, speak in commendable terms of the zeal manifested by a punctual attendance of members, of the ability and efficiency of officers and increase of members.

The Grand Superintendent of the Central District in his report so perfectly describes what we ourselves have often painfully experienced that we cannot refrain from quoting his remarks, hoping it may excite some of our Companions to a more punctual attendance upon the meetings of their Chapters. The Grand Superintendent in his report says :

“ I regret to state that, while Craft Masonry flourishes, the increase in the number of candidates for the Chapter degrees is not in the same ratio as the initiations; and when it is considered that the Royal Arch is the completion of the degree of Master Mason, one would naturally suppose that every brother should press onwards to the summit of Ancient Masonry, and thereby obtain that knowledge which had been lost. There does not exist the same interest in the working of the Chapter as we find in the lodge. It is too often difficult to obtain the requisite number of Companions to open the Chapter, and at the best of times the attendance is small considering the Chapter roll contains the names of so many members. The working constantly devolves on a few zealous members, and year after year do we find these Companions fulfilling the duties of the nominal officers. Can it be there is not sufficient zeal in the few new members who are yearly advanced to the active positions in the Chapters ?”

The opening address of the M.: E.: JOHN CHARLES FRANK, Grand Z., is brief and mostly applicable to matters within that jurisdiction. He very courteously and fraternally alludes to his Companions in the States as follows :

"I am happy to say that my remarks at the last meeting of this Council anticipated the action of our Companions in the States, who, I have been assured, have made every effort to bring the differences between North and South to a satisfactory termination ; that their efforts, under Providence, may be soon crowned with success is, I doubt not, the earnest wish of all Companions in Canada."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. DAVID CURTIS, is a candid and fraternal review of the proceedings of eighteen Grand Chapters, (ours included) which receives fraternal notice. In the introductory part of his report, Comp. CURTIS indulges in the following eloquent, patriotic, and fraternal remarks and reflections :

"Capitular Masonry, though at present overshadowed by the dark pall of internecine war in seventeen out of the eighteen jurisdictions, whose proceedings we are about so imperfectly to sketch, despairs not of its final triumph over the barbarity of human passions, and amidst the loud clangor of clashing arms, the horrid din of remorseless battle, and the maddening shouts of infuriated combatants, stands forth undismayed, clothed in those Godlike principles which have stood the test of centuries, and will, we trust, continue to gather strength and energy in their course until that time shall arrive when all mankind shall acknowledge her influence.

Your committee having their attention directed to jurisdictions all situated, except one (that of Scotland) in the heretofore United States of America, have to state that in consequence of the unholy and fratricidal war now raging there, Capitular Masonry is not at present making those wonted progressive strides so happily mentioned in former reports. There are, however, jurisdictions surrounded and oppressed by a preponderating share of those calamities, and yet exhibiting such astounding symptoms of energy and vitality as to lead us to admire still more those ineffable and enduring principles upon which masonry is founded.

It has grieved us to find in some instances R. A. Masons who have so far forgotten themselves and the principles of which they should be the exponents and vindicators, as to inveigh most virulently and in language unbecoming Masons, against those who have the misfortune to be arrayed in hostile arms against them.

The Chapter is dedicated to the God of peace, whose ineffable name should be so inscribed in characters of light upon the heart of each R. A. Mason, that the place of His sanctuary should not be contaminated, nor the fragrant essence of adoration issuing from the altars there erected, be polluted by the discussion of subjects *ever* at variance with the pure dictates of masonry, whose salutary and benign influence has ever been directed in casting oil upon the troubled waters of human dissensions, and in allaying the angry storm of man's untoward passions and violence.

The pretense for the introduction of this theme into the Chapter is that masonry and patriotism are so intimately connected, that when the standing column of national order and stability is in danger of being overturned, and the people have rushed to arms, no more suitable subject could be introduced into a Chapter than the discussion of their sufferings, and a narration of their wrongs.

It should, however, be recollected that patriotism is a word of but local import, and that what may be deemed *sufferings* and *wrongs* on the one side, may on the other be considered justifiable acts of retaliation.

But masonry, which has outlived the destruction of empires, the fall of dynasties, and the depopulation of entire nations, should not intermingle its lofty influence in the fierce and devastating siroccos of human violence, whose force, if left alone, would soon be spent."

M. E. Comp. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, of Quebec, was elected Grand Z., and R.: E.: THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, of Hamilton, was re-elected Grand Scribe E.

IOWA.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Iowa was held at Iowa City, on the 30th of May, 1863. The M. E. Grand High Priest having volunteered in the service, the Grand Chapter was opened by R.: E.: L. S. SWAFFORD, Grand King, presiding as Grand High Priest. The Deputy Grand High Priest, R.: E.: EDWARD A. GUILBERT, was present but declined presiding as High

Priest, and read his annual report wherein he labors to show that in Royal Arch Masonry the office of Deputy Grand High Priest is an anomaly of modern introduction, without honor or emolument, and ought to be abolished.

As this is a new subject, and his arguments in support of his position are at least plausible, we may be justified in quoting them. After stating that his views were approved by the Grand Council, and several other close students in the noble art, he proceeds :

“ I hold that Royal Arch Masonry, in its theory of construction, differs essentially from Blue Lodge Masonry. In the Grand Chapter we have what is called the Grand Council, and which is composed of three Companions, viz : the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, King, and Scribe. The founder of Royal Arch Masonry—with reverence be it spoken—based the theory of the Order upon the idea of the Trinity ; and this theory runs through all the majestic ceremonial of Royal Arch Masonry, and more or less colors all its laws and usages. In America, owing to the fact that the lodges and Chapters have become somewhat blended, because they have a common membership, and because Grand Officers of Grand Chapters have not thought of these things, or if having thought, have not pronounced authoritatively thereupon, and because the General Grand Chapter has fallen into the error of recognizing the Deputy Grand High Priest as the superior officer to the Grand King and Scribe, the scope of the organization has been lost sight of almost entirely ; but in England, which is the *alma mater* of Royal Arch Masonry in America, the lines are so distinctly drawn between the two branches of the Order “ that he who runs may read.” The Grand Council, then, is a *three-headed unity*. This body, and not the Grand High Priest alone, makes all the appointments, and collectively decides, when in session, all questions of Royal Arch Masonry polity which may arise. They are endowed alike with certain prerogatives, and they have the same illustrious title. These being facts, it naturally follows that when one of the heads is removed by death or absence, the next highest officer, viz : the Most Excellent King, succeeds to the chief seat in the sanctuary ; and in his absence, the Most Excellent Scribe becomes thus exalted. The Deputy Grand High Priest holds an anomalous position. In my opinion, the office is no more needed than is a fifth wheel to an omnibus. He is a mere ornamental appendage of the chief officer of the Grand Chapter, or, in other words, being really the deputy of the Grand Council, he is simply a servant with three masters, without honors, emoluments, or position. “ He runs with the machine,”

but is not of it. He is but a tenant-at-will of a station, which is only one of sufferance. He is a feebly-shining satellite revolving in an erratic and illy-defined orbit around the shining suns who illuminate the sanctuary. His "ineffectual fires" should be effectually "paled" by abolishing the office entirely."

The Deputy Grand High Priest then offered a resolution abolishing that office which was referred to the Committee of Jurisprudence who subsequently reported, that in their opinion the position taken by the R. E. D. Grand High Priest was sound masonic law, and recommended that the resolution be sent to the Chapters for their action.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. W. E. WOODWARD, is a candid review of the proceedings of twelve Grand Chapters, making liberal extracts, but few comments.

From a well-arranged statistical table we gather the following facts: Chapters twenty-eight, exaltations sixty, demitted nine, deaths six, members five hundred and sixty, dues \$401,50.

Companion L. S. SWAFFORD, of Iowa City, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. B. LANGRIDGE, of Muscatine, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

This Grand Chapter assembled in Louisville, October 19, 1863. It had under its jurisdiction seventy chartered Chapters and one under dispensation; thirty-two of which were represented, and thirty-seven made returns. From the returns made we find there were one hundred and nine exaltations, and one thousand and eighty members.

The Grand Chapter was opened by the M. . E. . THOS. SADLER, Grand High Priest, by a brief address, in which he says :

“ My Companions, in consequence of the lamentable troubles in our once happy but now distracted country, I am sorry to have to say that Foyal Arch Masonry has not prospered in many parts of the State, as I could have wished, but I hope and pray for a speedy reunion of full fellowship and brotherly love among the craft throughout the whole State and country, and that every Companion will strictly adhere to all the charges given to Past Masters.”

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. S. D. McCULLOUGH, is a brief review of the proceedings of thirteen Grand Chapters, with but few comments, desiring as they say to remember the injunction of St. Paul, — “ As much as as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men ” — refraining from harsh strictness and illiberal criticism.

We would here correct an error which we found in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Kentucky. In a table showing among other things the time of the organizations of the several Grand Chapters of the United States, that of New-Hampshire is stated as having been organized May, 1798. This is an error. This Grand Chapter was organized June 10, 1819, under a warrant authorizing the formation of a Grand Chapter by THOMAS SMITH WEBB, then D. G. Grand High Priest of the G. Grand Chapter of the United States, dated October 8, 1818.

Comps. SAMUEL D. McCULLOUGH, of Lexington, was elected Grand High Priest, and PHILIP SWIGERT, of Frankfort, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

This Grand Chapter held its Annual Convocation in Portland, May 4, 1863. It has within its jurisdiction thirteen subordinate Chapters, who were all represented in Grand Chapter, and made returns of eighty-eight exaltations, seven hundred and eighty-nine members, and one hundred and eleven non-affiliated Companions.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, JOHN J. BELL, in his annual address, expresses his views on emergency and dispensations, so exactly coinciding with our own, long entertained and often expressed both in Grand Lodge and Grand Chapter, that we think them deserving the serious consideration of our Grand Chapter. He says :

"I notice by the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of California, that in that jurisdiction, when a dispensation is granted for conferring the degrees, a fee is required to be paid for the use of the Grand Chapter ; perhaps such a law here might be of use, and might check somewhat the desire to receive the degrees out of the regular course. In truth my experience leads me to the belief that more evil than good arises from the system of dispensations, and that it would be much better for the institution if neither emergencies nor dispensations were allowed as sufficient reason for disregarding our wholesome regulations. But while our present system exists, there would seem to be no reason why a special privilege like that should not be a source of revenue to the Grand Chapter."

When we take up the proceedings of either the Grand Lodge or Grand Chapter of Maine, we expect to open to a well written, well arranged, and lengthy report from the able pen of Bro. and Comp. CYRIL PEARL, and happily never are disappointed.

This report to the Grand Chapter covers thirty-one pages of closely printed matter, containing long extracts from addresses of Grand High Priests and committees on Foreign Correspondence, with comments always appro-

priate and courteous. Besides expressing our admiration of his report we would be glad to make extracts, but should not know where to begin, and having begun should not know where to end. We would recommend it to the careful perusal of all Royal Arch Masons as both instructive and interesting.

M. E. JOHN J. BELL, of Carmel, was re-elected Grand High Priest, and R. E. IRA BERRY, of Portland, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

This Grand Chapter had a special convocation, March 18, 1863, convened by reason of the death of E. Comp. JOSEPH ROBINSON, Grand Secretary. A committee was appointed who reported a series of appropriate resolutions, which were adopted, and the only business transacted.

The Annual Convocation was held in the city of Washington, November 9, 1863. The returns of nine Chapters show a membership of four hundred and forty-two, and exaltations one hundred and forty-one.

In accordance with a circular previously issued, the M. E. Grand Council visited most of the Chapters in this jurisdiction. The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. J. N. McJILTON, in his report of those visitations, after describing the fraternal greeting and hearty welcome they received, closes that part of his report with a conviction that a regular system of visitation by the Grand Council would be productive of much good among the workmen of the Royal Arch, and adds :

“ Affiliation and fraternity are among the main features of the masonic institution, and the more thoroughly they are carried out, the better will

companions understand each other, and the more will they be likely to respect, love, and assist one another."

In his address the M. E. Grand High Priest speaks of the excellence and beauty of the Holy Arch as follows :

"The Royal Arch is founded upon events recorded in the Scriptures, which are of most important consideration and which appear in connection with the Church as its symbols and ornaments, associated with its rites and ceremonies, and with its purpose in the affiliation of mankind with God, and of men with each other in fraternal bonds. This use and application of the usages and precepts of the Holy Scriptures certainly has in view the safety and salvation of the soul of man. In this view, how beautiful and how excellent is the Royal Arch? How highly ought it to be esteemed, and with what reverence should it be applied? The language of the Royal Arch to the brother that approaches it is, "Put thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." No profane can be admitted to the sacred premises. The only approved applicant is the brother who has passed the ordeal of the initiate in the three steps, in each of which he is tried and proved. If he be found wanting, he dare not approach the holy place where the higher mysteries of the Arch are deposited.

Companions, if the ground be holy on which we stand as Royal Arch Masons, how careful should we be in guarding the entrance of the same, and with what watchfulness and discretion should we engage in the performance of our work within the tabernacle. The study of the character of the Royal Arch is the duty of every Companion, and in the conforming of his life and actions to its requirements, will the beauty of holiness appear in its visible illustration of the purposes and precepts of the institution as drawn from the Volume of Inspiration, thus rendered practically apparent in the lives of the members of our ancient and honorable institution, demands the respect and shall secure the admiration of mankind."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is an able, candid, and impartial review of the proceedings of twelve Grand Chapters, by Comp. E. L. STEVENS. In his review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Indiana, (which we have not seen) he quotes and approves what the M. E. Grand High Priest says upon the subject of withdrawing from the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter.

Believing as we do that we have no right as Royal Arch Masons forcibly to sever our connection with that Grand Body, we give place to that extract for the candid consideration of the Royal Craft within our own jurisdiction. The M. E. Grand High Priest of Indiana, Comp. GEO. W. PORTER, says :

"The question of the policy and expediency of cutting loose from the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and of thus dissolving that body, is still discussed in several of the State Grand Chapters. Upon this subject my opinions may be peculiar, but they are nevertheless fixed and immutable. If, at other times, and under other circumstances, I could be brought to favor such a policy, I would still be unalterably opposed to it now, and in view of the present unhappy state of things in our distracted and divided country. The fierce clash of arms, the belching thunders of the cannon, the bloodstained fields of battle, the black and smoldering ruins of our towns, the devastation of our fields, and the dreary habiliments of mourning in which our people are everywhere clothed, reveal to us some of the bitter and legitimate fruits of this mad and wicked spirit of secession and dissolution. The wild and reckless tendency to disintegration and desolation seems, for some years past, to have pervaded, not only political, but even ecclesiastical bodies, and is now threatening to invade the sacred precincts of our Order, and to take possession of bodies bound and held together by the magic power of the mystic ties of affiliation and brotherhood. * * * * *

I think it can require no labored argument to prove the wisdom of doing everything in our power to counteract this dangerous tendency to disintegration, and to bring back the public mind to its original conservatism. It would require as little argument to demonstrate the great folly of giving any further sanction and encouragement to this growing and dangerous tendency by our imitation or example."

In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Iowa, the committee, after quoting the same passage from the address of the E. D. Grand High Priest, which we have before done, answer his argument in the following language :

"Your committee agree entirely with the D. Grand High Priest of Iowa, but dissent from his, and Grand Chapter's conclusions.

That the D. Grand High Priest is a mere ornamental appendage to the Grand Chapter, and of no more use than a "fifth wheel to an omnibus," while the Grand High Priest is within the jurisdiction of exercising his powers, we fully admit. But the moment the Grand High Priest dies, or leaves the jurisdiction, the deputy becomes Grand High Priest; he becomes *the one* to make that very *trio* which is so strongly commended by the D. Grand High Priest of Iowa, and without him, "the Grand Council" would be a dismembered body. Our old Companions were no such short-sighted mortals as not to foresee that a jurisdiction might be deprived of its Grand High Priest during his term of office, and they wisely proposed for such an emergency by authorizing a D. Grand High Priest to be elected, without any powers or duties while the Grand High Priest was performing the duties of his office, but ready the moment he should cease, to step in with the full powers of Grand High Priest, and perform all the duties of that high office."

After drawing an analogy between Royal Arch Masonry and the Constitution of the United States, in providing for the election of a Vice President, and that of some States providing for Lieutenant Governors, the committee add:

"We deem it as important in a Grand Royal Arch Chapter as in any other organization, and perhaps more so, for under no ordinary circumstances should the Grand Council of *three* be broken up."

Now, as before remarked, we have no time to consider the position either of the D. Grand High Priest of Iowa, or committee of the Grand Chapter of Maryland, but it strikes us that if the position taken by the committee be tenable, that the council of three should never be broken up, it proves that there should be a D. High Priest in every subordinate Chapter to guard the council of three against being broken up by the death of the High Priest, or any other casualty that should deprive the Chapter of his services.

Comp. JOHN L. YEATES, of Baltimore, was elected

Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. MORRIS SMITH, of Washington City, was elected Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We have received an abstract of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter, embracing the proceedings of December, 1862; March, June, and September, 1863. Their Annual Convocation was held in Boston, September 8, 1863. Number of Chapters twenty-four, under dispensation four, members two thousand one hundred and thirty-five, exaltations two hundred and eighty-nine.

The Grand Chapter was opened by the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. SOLON THORNTON, without an annual address. Whether this omission is peculiar to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, or accidental we have no means of knowing.

The committee are pleased to find that this Grand Chapter is wheeling into the line with other Grand Chapters, so far as to present, for the first time, an excellent Report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. JAMES KIMBALL. His report covers twenty-six pages, containing judiciously selected, well arranged and interesting matter, carefully and impartially reviewing the proceedings of eleven Grand Chapters, among which our Grand Chapter receives fraternal notice. In conclusion of their report the committee say:

“From an examination of these proceedings, we learn that peace and harmony reign throughout the several jurisdictions. Although our country has been convulsed by the terrible calamities incident to a condition of war, yet our altar-fires have been kept burning brightly upon hundreds of altars throughout the length and breadth of the land, and from week to week bear witness to the truth, that the sublime teachings of our Order are fitted and designed to improve and elevate the thoughts and affections of those who are brought under their immediate influence.

Within our own jurisdiction unexampled prosperity has attended our labors. During the past year dispensations have been granted for a Chapter in South Boston; also for Chapters in the towns of Melrose, Medford, and Palmer.

Let it be the prayer of every Companion, that before another year rolls round the blessings of peace may shed their hallowed influences over our beloved country; that war may cease, and that our country may come forth purified and purged of those sins which have called down upon us, as a nation, the displeasure of the Almighty."

M.: E.: SOLON THORNTON, of Boston, was re-elected Grand High Priest, and E.: THOMAS WATERMAN of Boston, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

MINNESOTA.

The pamphlet which we have received from the Grand Secretary contains the proceedings of that Grand Chapter for the years 1861 and 1863; for some cause, which does not appear, no convocation was held in 1862.

At the convocation of 1861, the Grand Chapter was opened by M. E. Comp. R. S. ALDEN, Grand High Priest, who read his annual address, which is replete with sound sense, wholesome advice, and serious moral reflections, worthy to be treasured up in the memory and reduced to practice in daily life by all who have been permitted to penetrate the Arch. We make the following extracts for the benefit of our readers :

"Humanity knows no higher or stronger bond of union and sympathy than that which draws us together,—no worthier aims or nobler purposes than those proposed for our attainment,—no joys more unalloyed than those experienced from the faithful discharge of our duties.

We miss to-day the faces of some who were here assembled at our last convocation, who shall no more participate in these delightful exercises and fraternal greetings, reminding us that our places, too, shall soon be filled with others, and that in the meantime the work of our Chapter

should be such that none shall need to be undone by our successors, and that it shall at last meet the approval of the Great Architect, and bear the test of the Grand Overseer's square, who will judge not only its outward fitness, but the very motives from which it has been accomplished.

Let us not fall into the error of supposing that our success is commensurate with, or only measured by the increase of our numbers. Far otherwise, indeed. True, our principles must be more or less embraced and received into the hearts of those worthy of the honor, in order to perpetuate the blessings they were designed to bestow. But the danger has always been, that too many, rather than too few, have desired to share in these sublime mysteries. Let us not seek to render our sacred temple externally imposing from its size, at the expense of that beauty and glory which should adorn its inner sanctuary.

Our eyes have witnessed divine beauty, and order evolved from chaos and confusion; our ears have listened to those wonderful teachings which comprise the wisdom of the worthiest of all ages; our hearts have opened to the comprehension of those mysterious truths which have been revealed to but few in every age; and if thus highly favored, our daily lives bear not convincing testimony to the excellence of our Order, vain will be the effort by other means to magnify it in the eyes of the world. No array of numbers and talent, however formidable; no display of regalia, symbols or emblems, however striking; no observance of rites, forms and ceremonies, however exacting, can supply the place of that practical daily life of truth, honor, integrity and benevolence, which is the legitimate fruit and development of the teachings of our reverend Order. It is only when the title of Royal Arch Masonry becomes the synonym for those qualities, that we shall have attained the true dignity proposed as the end and result of our labors.

Companions: we have fallen upon troublous times. At this second commemoration of our organization, we see our beloved country torn and convulsed with civil war. Though this is not the time or the occasion to advert to the causes which have led to and continued this unhappy strife, I cannot pass over in entire silence an event of such profound significance, which enters so largely into all our daily thoughts and plans; so vitally affects all our interests, and is pregnant with such vast results to the political status of our country and the principles of free government throughout the world. Suffice it here to say, that as Royal Arch Masons we have the proud and satisfactory consciousness that no word, or act, or teaching of any Chapter of either of the United States, in which they exist, has hastened, or even remotely tended to bring about the deplorable evils which oppress us. We meddle with no political organizations. have no sectional objects to promote, nor can revolutions, dismemberment of States, or even the overthrow of civil government, and the prevalence

of anarchy, sunder these indissoluble ties which bind the hearts of the Royal Craft in a beautiful and eternal union.⁹

The Annual Convocation for 1863 was held in St. Paul, October 28 ; M. E. ALFRED E. AMES presiding, who was elected Grand High Priest in 1861.

The address of the Grand High Priest is very brief, being principally a report of his doings.

Five chartered Chapters and one under dispensation made returns by which we should judge they had done a good amount of work, although the sum total of exaltations or members is not given, and we have neither time nor inclination to count them up.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence by the Grand Secretary, E. Comp. A. T. C. PIERSON, is original, humorous, unique, and we might almost say eccentric in its character; and yet exhibiting a greater degree of labor and close investigation than we ever discovered in any one report. For the purpose of variety and to show the originality of our worthy Companion, we transcribe a portion of the introductory part of his report. He commences his report with four whereases, (if I may be indulged in the expression) and one therefore, then says :

"Such, Companions, is about your instructions to and expectations of your committee in the appointment.

Now I submit, Companions, did you ever hear the story — stories are in order in these latter days — of the man who was ordered to pass through a cane-brake and select a dozen of the tallest and straightest canes and bring back with him ; or of the boy who was ordered to select from a ship load of oranges one hundred of the largest and best ? Neither accomplished the object. So of your committee. He has read every proceeding received, pencil in hand, — commenced by marking a passage in the address of the Grand High Priest, and then another, and another, and so on through the book ; — finding the quotations would comprise all the matter in the book, commenced again to mark out ; got bewildered,

and spoiled the books with his marking and re-marking, and would respectfully request of Comp. Grand Secretaries to send another copy for binding.

As to condensing — condense light! — it can't be done; at least by your committee. All the condensing your committee could do, would be to take all pamphlets of proceedings, put them in one, and in that condensed form report them. But that would occupy more time in the reading than you have now to spare in the hearing, and to print would require more money than we have in the treasury or are likely soon to have. In this dilemma your committee concluded, as the school boy did, to "take it as it comes," and without any fears as to the criticism of — way down in civilization, just go ahead on our own account.

Your committee will endeavor to present matter that, while it will be new to most of the Companions in this jurisdiction, and useful for future reference, may be old to our Companions in civilization. But they don't expect much of us up here, any way; and as the girl said, who had the whooping cough, it's not their committee, anyhow."

He then commences with the General Grand Chapter and gives a perfect history of that and thirty other Grand Chapters, showing the time of the organization of each, the number of Chapters existing in each State at the time of organization, and the subsequent growth of each, making a complete history of Royal Arch Masonry in this country. In fact his report contains more interesting masonic historical information than we ever met with in any one publication. We regret that time and space will not admit of our inserting the whole report.

That his report does not contain some errors, we would not affirm. In fact we know he has committed a slight error in the time of organization of the Grand Chapter of New-Hampshire. He states that it was organized August 23, 1819; when our records show it was organized June 10, 1819, with the approbation of THOMAS SMITH WEBB, then M. E. D. G. Grand High Priest of the G. Grand Chapter of the United States. There may

be other slight errors in dates, if so, they may be easily corrected as in this instance.

We give place for the closing remarks of Comp. PIERSON, in his report, as follows :

"Your committee have deviated from custom, and what is considered the legitimate work of a Committee on Foreign Correspondence, and no apology is offered for so doing. We believe that in noticing the organization of each Grand Body, useful matter for future reference would be presented.

It is possible that this report may be seen by some of our Companions "way down in civilization," and if so, they may conclude that we take too ultra positions relative to the General Grand Chapter. To such, all we ask is a fair examination and investigation of the facts stated. If we are wrong no one will be more ready to acknowledge ; but we want the evidence first. If our deductions from facts stated are not legitimate, if shown, we will promptly acknowledge the error.

We believe that obligations taken, are matters not entered into for "the fun of the thing," and of no binding force, but that they *are* of binding force ; that no man can, of his own volition, and when it suits his purposes, absolve himself from their requirements. Every Royal Arch Mason, if regularly made, and every High Priest, if legally installed, since 1806, of every Grand and subordinate Royal Arch Chapter, has taken an obligation to maintain and support the General Grand Royal Arch Constitution.

There is a spirit of insubordination abroad in the land that must be checked, or our system is gone. That will be done which all the powers of anti-masonry failed to accomplish.

The arguments used against the General Grand Chapter, are exactly the same that the folks down South use against the General Government. The one, in our opinion, is about as rational as the other.

There is no safety except in sustaining and obeying the laws. If they are onerous or unequal, change them ; but do it legitimately."

NEW YORK.

Annual Convocation at Albany, February 3, 1863.
M. E. GEORGE H. THACHER, Grand High Priest, presiding.

The condition of Royal Arch Masonry in New York

may be seen by the following extract from the address of the Grand High Priest :

“ It is to me, and no doubt will be to you, a source of extreme gratification to know that since our last convocation harmony and good-will have prevailed throughout our entire jurisdiction. Not one note of discord have I heard from either of our subordinate Chapters or from their individual members, nor anything to indicate the existence of the slightest element of strife or of discontent. When we reflect that nearly or quite five thousand Royal Arch Masons are subject to our jurisdiction, this statement will be received as the best possible evidence of the eminent moral worth of the officers and members of our noble order, of their care and watchfulness in the selection of candidates to share in its honors and benefits, and of their unwavering attachment and adherence to its principles and landmarks. What is true of us is, in the main, equally applicable to most of our sister jurisdictions, not excepting those of the States which have withdrawn their allegiance from our National Government. If anything were wanting to demonstrate the wholesome influence of masonry upon those who have been admitted to its fellowship, we need only contrast the condition of our order with the turmoils and confusions and contentions which beset and bewilder us in almost all other walks and departments of life. Those whose hearts have not been touched by the magic power, nay, I will not say the magic power, but the eternal fire that falls from heaven upon the mystic altar, know nothing of the sublime faith with which the true Mason gazes upon the turbulence of the outer world, and that, too, when he is himself an actual participant in its conflicts. Nor can they understand why it is that, in the hour of general peril, when the very foundations of society seem to be breaking up, an institution, composed of men of different political and religious sentiments, of different associations and positions, preserves within itself such perfect accord, and holds its members together with such strong bonds of unity and friendship. They are amazed at the undeniable fact that this institution, unlike others that have appeared and passed away, has, for so many centuries, survived the convulsions and wrecks of States and empires, has withstood both political and religious persecutions aimed directly against itself, and that it still remains as firmly established as are the everlasting mountains upon their base.”

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is a candid review of the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters.

The committee in concluding their report allude to a

matter which has been to us really annoying, and to which we intended to allude, till we came upon the remarks of the committee, who express our views so clearly that we adopt their language. They say:

"In the summary of the proceedings of the several Grand Chapters, we find less of masonic legislation than in some former years. But what appears to your committee as unnecessary at least, if not improper, is the tendency to exlarge upon outside or general matters, which border closely, if they do not infringe upon forbidden ground. And it is with this view your committee feel to regret so large a portion of reports have been devoted to affairs which, if not absolutely political, they are certainly sectional, the discussion of which has for years been a source of sectional jealousies. Let there be one hallowed place where brother can meet brother in fraternal greeting, and join in earnest prayer to our Heavenly Father, that the sins and errors of the past may be forgiven, and the waters of oblivion forever cover the frailties of humanity, which have caused the "land to mourn," and the tears of widows and orphans to bedew the ground for homes left desolate, and graves filled to gratify an unholy personal ambition."

As applicable to the above remarks the committee offered the following resolution which was adopted:

"Resolved, That, as Masons, the less we say upon the exciting topics now agitating our country, the more perfectly we shall perform our duty as "peace makers" among the craft."

The returns show four thousand four hundred and twenty-eight members, and four hundred and twenty-six exaltations.

Comp. DARIUS A. OGDEN, of Penn Yan, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and JOHN O. COLE, of Albany, re-elected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

Annual Convocation at Trenton, September 9, 1863.

Twelve Chapters represented. Returns show an aggregate of four hundred and forty-five members.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. GEO. B. EDWARDS, is a straightforward, business-like document, rendering an account of his stewardship, and how he had discharged the duties devolving on him. He reports having visited all the subordinate Chapters in his jurisdiction, and those in his immediate vicinity frequently.

His address is mainly applicable to his Grand Chapter, and as such highly valuable.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is from the able pen of Comp. WM. H. JEFFREYS covering twenty-six pages. The selections from addresses and reports are judiciously made, and his comments pertinent and just.

M. E. Comp. JOHN SHEVILLE, of Hudson City, was elected Grand High Priest, and E. Comp. JOHN WOLVERTON was re-elected Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The pamphlet received is merely an abstract of the proceedings of that Grand Chapter, of nine pages of printed matter, giving a list of the Grand Officers and Past Grand High Priests, and a brief Report on Foreign Correspondence, signed by Comps. GEORGE GRISCON, CHARLES GILPIN, and J. ALEX. SIMPSON.

The committee simply give the name of each Grand Chapter and time of Annual Convocation, and concludes with an apology for its hasty preparation without note or comment.

The abstract gives the names of the Grand High Priest, but not the residence of any except the D. D.

Grand High Priest. It does not give the residence even of the Grand Secretary, the principal medium of communication. It reminded us of the remark of the man who cut his dog's tail off just forward of the hips, when he exclaimed, "A leetle too short by a *great* sight."

The Grand Chapter of the Key-Stone State should furnish an abstract not quite so *abstracted*, one at least that would let Companions abroad know the address of their Grand Officers. We make no extracts ^{or} ~~from~~ want of material from which to make them.

RHODE ISLAND.

Annual Convocation in the city of Providence, March 11, 1863. Five Chapters represented. The returns show an aggregate of five hundred and thirty members, and twenty-four exaltations.

We judge from the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. LYMAN KNAP, that he is somewhat radical in his notions. He goes in for the abolition of the Chapter degrees, and restoring to the symbolic lodges all that originally belonged to them. He charges that gross fraud was successfully practiced by the masonic innovators of the eighteenth century; that there was a division of the Master's degree, and upon that division the innovators built the degree of the Royal Arch; and thinks that the Mark and M. E. Master's degrees are of little importance, and, if left unsupported by the Blue Lodge of Royal Arch, they would not outlive a single century.

Without indorsing his notions we would say that we read his address with a good degree of interest. It discovers marked ability, and much close investigation. Our private opinion, however, is that it is now too late to

correct the errors, if errors they be, so long assented to and acquiesced in.

The two organizations of symbolic and Royal Arch Masonry are now distinct, their limits and powers clearly defined and distinctly understood. Symbolic Masonry claims nothing of, or from, the Royal Arch; and the Royal Arch has no disposition to yield anything not asked for or claimed.

The two organizations have long been, and are now, working harmoniously, each in its own sphere, and we hardly think it would be good policy, or result for the good of either, to disturb that harmony by throwing a firebrand of contention into their midst. We had much better guard against the attempted innovations of the present day, which have come near breaking up and destroying the harmony of several of our Grand Lodges.

There was no Report on Foreign Correspondence. M.: E.: NATHAN H. GOULD was elected Grand High Priest, and E.: SAMUEL B. SWAN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

Annual Convocation in Bradford, October 7, 1863. Thirteen Chapters were represented by which we find, after the trouble of footing up the number of members returned by each Chapter, that there is within that Grand Jurisdiction eight hundred and forty-four Royal Arch Masons. The number of exaltations do not appear on the returns or elsewhere.

The Annual address, by M.: E.: BARZILLAI DAVENPORT is among the first-best for practical good sense and wholesome advice. It bears on every line the impress of a sound mind, a clear head, and a warm heart. In read-

ing it one cannot but be impressed that it is but the utterance of a warm and affectionate heart. He says :

"When we grasp the hand of our brother, and exchange our friendly greetings, we involuntarily feel the glow of brotherly affection, and it kindles in our bosoms a warmth which lingers long in the fraternal breast. I love these masonic gatherings, it makes my heart young, although my voice and my limbs admonish me of advancing age ; and I am inclined to believe that the aged members of our fraternity prize them higher than our younger Companions do,— they may be looking forward to many future happy meetings, while we know that the days of our pilgrimage must soon close."

Long may that aged M. E. Companion live to meet his Companions, animate them by his presence, and aid them by his counsel to every good word and work.

The report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. C. F. DANA, is a careful, candid, and impartial review of eleven Grand Chapters, presenting fairly and faithfully the present condition of capitular masonry therein, and abstaining from frequent comments thereon.

In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Maine, the committee give a word of salutary advice to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence of that Grand Chapter, which we transfer to our report and would advise that it be kindly received and in future reduced to practice :

"We regret that the sentiments of this committee in regard to our separation from the General Grand Chapter find so little favor with the learned and eloquent Companion ; but as that action is now final, as regards the Grand Chapter of Vermont, it does not seem expedient to bestow any further discussion upon a subject that is now properly classed among the by-gones.

We will only add, that it is a pity that so pre-eminent a masonic authority as Companion PEARL, should be so wedded to his false idol of a Gen-

eral Grand Chapter, as to distort all his views of the proper and useful relations that have hitherto existed between it and the State Grand Chapters, and lead him to ascribe such wonderful attributes to it, which it certainly does not possess."

M. E. Comp. GAMALIEL WASHBURN, of Montpelier, was elected Grand High Priest, and E. Comp. JOHN B. HOLLENBECK, of Burlington, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN.

Annual Convocation held at Milwaukee, February 4, 1863. Twenty subordinate Chapters return seven hundred and thirty-six members, and one hundred and nine exaltations.

The M.: E.: MONTGOMERY M. COTHREN, Grand High Priest, delivered his annual address in which he displays much learning and research on the antiquity of masonry, which was not very interesting to the committee, and which they presume would not very much interest their readers.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. HENRY S. BAIRD, reviews the proceedings of ten Grand Chapters. The report is well written, but contains nothing particularly interesting, that we have noticed, from other reports.

M.: E.: ALVIN B. ADDEN of Portage City, was elected Grand High Priest, and WM. T. PALMER, of Milwaukee, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

And now, Companions, having concluded our examinations, we submit the result of our labors, imperfect as

they are, wishing as heartily as you can that they were better, and regret, as sincerely as you may, that the task had not been committed to abler hands; but as we are taught that charity covers a multitude of sins, we cherish the hope that you will veil our short-comings and imperfections within the broad folds of charity, the greatest of masonic virtues.

We should do injustice to the subject of our labors and violence to our own feelings were we to withhold the meed of praise deservedly due to the Royal Craft in every quarter. The most perfect harmony, fraternal fellowship, and masonic courtesy exists between the several Grand Chapters, nor are the evidences of harmony and prosperity less observant within each Grand Jurisdiction. No notes of discord are heard to disturb the harmony that beautifies our majestic temple. "Peace reigns within our walls and prosperity within our palaces."

Unhappily, by force of circumstances, the communication with our brethren and Companions of the rebellious States has been interrupted so that we can neither receive from them their sympathy nor extend to them ours, but we trust, hope and pray that the time may come, and that not far distant, when we may extend to them friendly greetings, and receive theirs in return.

It is a happy and consoling thought that freemasonry has contributed nothing in bringing about the present deplorable condition of our country. Whatever may have been done or said by individuals to imbitter friendship and engender strife, nothing can be charged to the fraternity as encouraging or countenancing either, and may

we be ever ready to adopt the beautiful and noble sentiment of the immortal bard, and say,

“ Then gently scan your brother man,
 And gentler, sister woman ;
 Tho’ they may gang, a kenning wrang,
 To step aside is human.
 One point must still be greatly dark,
 The moving *why* they do it,
 And just as lamely can ye mark
 How far perhaps they rue it.

Who made the heart, ’tis he alone
 Decidedly can try us :
 He knows each chord, its various tone,
 Each spring its various bias.
 Then at the balance let’s be mute,
 We never can adjust it.
 What’s done we partly may compute,
 But know not what’s resisted.”

Thanking you, Companions, for the confidence reposed in us, we close our report.

HORACE CHASE.

LIST OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF THE GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE SINCE
ITS FIRST ORGANIZATION IN 1819, AND THE YEAR IN OFFICE.

Grand High Priest.	D. G. High Priest.	Grand King.	Grand Scribe.	Grand Secretary.	Year.
JOHN HARRIS,*	THOMAS S. BOWLES,	HENRY HUTCHINSON,*	BROUGHTON WHITE,*	THOMAS W. COLBY,*	1819
"	"	BROUGHTON WHITE,	HENRY HUTCHINSON,*	"	1820
THOMAS S. BOWLES,	JOHN PRENTISS,	TIMOTHY KENRICK,*	H. G. HARRIS,	"	1821
JONATHAN NYE,*	JAMES F. DANA,*	SAMUEL CUSHMAN,*	EDWARD DEAN,	"	1822
THOMAS W. COLBY,*	ALPHEUS BAKER,	DANIEL BRADFORD,	NATHAN BINGHAM,	TIMOTHY KENRICK,*	1823
SAMUEL CUSHMAN,*	ARTEMAS ROGERS,	THOMAS BEEDE,*	GODFREY STEVENS,*	"	1824
"	"	"	FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	"	1825
"	FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	JOSEPH W. WHITE,	OLIVER HEATON,	ALBE CADY,*	1826
FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	JOSEPH E. WHITE,	OLIVER HEATON,	HORACE CHASE,	"	1827
"	JOSEPH W. WHITE,	"	"	"	1828
ANDREW PIERCE,*	ANDREW PIERCE,*	HORACE CHASE,	B. L. GREENOUGH,	"	1829
"	HORACE CHASE,	B. L. GREENOUGH,	WM. BOARDMAN,	"	1830
"	ARTEMAS ROGERS,	ROBERT SMITH,*	STEPHEN S. PALMER,	"	1831
JONATHAN NYE,*	ROBERT SMITH,*	CALVIN BENTON,*	B. L. GREENOUGH,	"	1832
ROBERT SMITH,*	B. L. GREENOUGH,	WILLIAM BOARDMAN,	CHARLES LANE,	"	1833
B. L. GREENOUGH,	LEMUEL L. BAKER,	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	CALEB WENTWORTH,	"	1834
"	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	JONATHAN NYE,*	CHARLES LANE,	"	1835
"	"	"	"	"	1836
ROBERT SMITH,*	WEARE TAPPAN,	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	ABEL HUTCHINS,*	"	1837
"	"	"	"	"	1838

WEARE TAPPAN,	ABEL HUTCHINS,*	DANIEL CHASE,*	DAVID PARKER,*	1839
"	"	"	"	1840
DANIEL CHASE,*	"	DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,	1841
"	"	"	"	1842
"	DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	1843
DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,	JOHN KNOWLTON,	JAMES COLLINS,	1844
"	"	"	"	1845
PHILEMON TOLLES,	JOHN KNOWLTON,	JAMES COLLINS,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	1846
"	"	JOHN CHRISTIE,	HORACE CHASE,	1847
JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	HORACE CHASE,	NICHOLAS FOWLER,*	1848
"	JOHN CHRISTIE,	JOHN J. PRENTISS,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	1849
JOHN J. PRENTISS,	HORACE FESSENDEN,*	JOHN J. PRENTISS,	WILLIAM CARR,	1850
DANIEL BALCH,	DANIEL BALCH,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	"	1851
"	ALBERT R. HATCH,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	T. T. ABBOT,	1852
ALBERT R. HATCH,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	T. T. ABBOT,	MOSES PAUL,*	1853
"	"	"	"	1854
JOHN CHRISTIE,	T. T. ABBOT,	SAMUEL KELLEY,	PHILEMON TOLLES,	1855
"	"	MOSES PAUL,*	JERE. F. DANIELL,	1856
THEODORE T. ABBOT,	MOSES PAUL,*	JEREMIAH F. DANIELL,	GEO. H. HUBBARD,	1857
"	"	GEO. H. HUBBARD,	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	1858
"	"	"	"	1859
MOSES PAUL,*	GEO. H. HUBBARD,	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	RICHARD N. ROSS,	1860
JONAS LIVINGSTON,	SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	E. W. HARRINGTON,	THOMAS PEARSON,	1861
SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	E. W. HARRINGTON,	THOMAS PEARSON,	RICHARD N. ROSS,	1862
E. W. HARRINGTON,	JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	THOMAS E. HATCH,	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	1863
JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	THOS. E. HATCH,	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	N. W. CUMNER,	1864

*Dead.

ORDER OF HIGH-PRIESTHOOD.

A convention of High Priests was held at the Masonic Temple in Manchester, January 22, A. D., 1862, A. I. 2392. Present:

HORACE CHASE,
THEODORE T. ABBOT,
ISAAC C. FLANDERS,
EDWD. W. HARRINGTON.

The convention having been duly organized, the following E. Companions, High Priests elect, were severally introduced, set apart, and consecrated to the office of High Priest in ancient form: Comps. DANIEL C. GOULD, LYMAN A. WALKER, and JOHN B. FISH.

The convention was then adjourned to to-morrow evening at eight o'clock.

JANUARY 23, 1862.

The convention met agreeably to adjournment, and was called to order. Present :

Comp. HORACE CHASE,
 “ DANIEL BALCH,
 “ ZEBINA PERRY,
 “ ISAAC C. FLANDERS,
 “ E. W. HARRINGTON,
 “ DANIEL R. MARSHALL,
 “ DANIEL C. GOULD,
 “ JOHN B. FISH.

The following E. Companions presented their proper credentials and vouchers, which being satisfactory, they were severally introduced, set apart, and consecrated to the office of High Priest in ancient form :

Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK,
 “ JOHN D. CHANDLER.

Attest :

HORACE CHASE,
President of the Convention.

On motion of Comp. BALCH,

Voted, To form a council of High Priests for the State of New-Hampshire.

Comp. BALCH was appointed Secretary, and the convention proceeded to the election of officers, and on

counting the ballots the following companions were severally declared duly elected :

Comp. HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *President*.

“ DANIEL BALCH, Manchester, *Vice Pres.*

“ JOHN D. CHANDLER, Nashua, *Secretary*.

“ JOHN B. FISH, Manchester, *Chaplain*.

“ DANIEL C. GOULD, Manchester, *Herald*.

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *Conductor*.

“ LYMAN A. WALKER, Concord, *M. of Cere.*

“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, Portsmouth, *Guard*.

On motion of Companion BALCH,

Voted, That the fee for the order of High-Priesthood hereafter shall be two dollars.

On motion,

Voted, That Comps. HORACE CHASE, DANIEL BALCH, and JOHN D. CHANDLER, be a committee to prepare and report by-laws for the government of the council.

Voted, That all Companions residing within this State be admitted and considered as members of this council.

The convention was then closed.

A true record.— Attest :

DANIEL BALCH, *Secretary*.

MINUTES
OF THE
COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS,
OF THE
STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,
JUNE 9th, 1862.

The Council of High Priests of the State of New-Hampshire assembled at Masonic Temple, in Concord, June 9, 1862. Present:

Comp. HORACE CHASE, *President*.

“ JOHN D. CHANDLER, *Secretary*.

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *Conductor*.

“ LYMAN A. WALKER, *Master of Ceremonies*.

“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *Guard*.

Comps. A. H. SAUNDERS, M. E. High Priest of Meridian Sun Chapter, No. 9, and A. P. CARPENTER, M.

E. High Priest of Franklin Chapter, No. 5, appeared with proper credentials, and were severally set apart and solemnly consecrated to the office of High Priesthood in ancient form.

The Council then adjourned to half past seven o'clock to-morrow evening.

JUNE 10, A. D. 1862, 7½ O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Council assembled agreeably to adjournment.

Present as last evening.

Comps. SAM'L M. WILCOX, M. E. Grand High Priest, and RICHARD N. ROSS, M. E. High Priest of Belknap Chapter, No. 8, were severally introduced, set apart and consecrated to the office of High Priest in ancient form.

The Council was then closed.

Attest:

JOHN D. CHANDLER, *Secretary*.

MINUTES
OF THE
COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS,
IN 1863.

At a meeting of the Council of High Priests of the State of New-Hampshire, held at Masonic Temple in Concord, June 8, 1863. Present:

Comp. HORACE CHASE, *President*.
“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *Conductor*.
“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *Guard*.

MEMBERS.

Comp. EDWARD W. HARRINGTON.
“ SAM'L M. WILCOX.
“ DAN. R. MARSHALL.
“ A. H. SAUNDERS.

The Council was opened in due form.

M. E. Companions HENRY M. STREETER, THOS. E. HATCH, WM. H. CUMMINGS, LEWIS WOODMAN, OLIVER

H. PHILLIPS, and N. W. CUMNER, presented credentials of their qualification for the order and were severally introduced, set apart and consecrated to the office of High Priest in ancient form.

The Council then proceeded to the election of officers, when on counting the ballots the following companions were declared duly elected :

M. E. HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *President*.

“ EDW'D W. HARRINGTON, Manchester, *Vice P.*

“ WM. H. CUMMINGS, Lisbon, *Secretary*.

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *Chaplain*.

“ HENRY N. STREETER, Keene, *Herald*.

“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, Portsmouth, *Conductor*.

“ A. H. SAUNDERS, Nashua, *Master of Ceremonies*.

“ LYMAN A. WALKER, Concord, *Guard*.

The Council was then duly closed.

Attest :

W. H. CUMMINGS, *Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

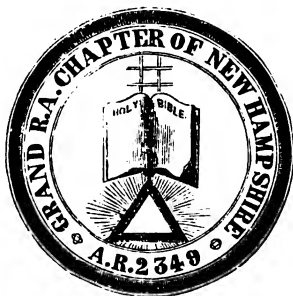
OF THE

STATE OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE,

AT ITS

Annual Convocation, held at Concord,

JUNE,



1865.

MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, 16 AND 17 SMYTH'S BLOCK.

1866.

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Masons. Grand Chapter.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

OF

NEW HAMPSHIRE,

AT ITS

ANNUAL CONVOCATION,

HELD AT
CONCORD,



JUNE 13,
1865.

MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, 16 AND 17 SMYTH'S BLOCK.

1866.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE.
FOR 1865.

The Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire, for 1865, was held at Concord, on Monday the 12th day of June, A. L., 5865, A. I., 2395, at 4 o'clock P. M.

A quorum of the officers and members of the Grand Chapter being in attendance, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK proceeded and opened the Grand Chapter in ample form, with prayer by Comp. and Rev. JAMES ADAMS, E. Grand Chaplain.

On motion of Comp G. CUMMINGS,

Resolved, That reading of the journal of the last Grand Convocation be dispensed with, as printed copies have been distributed to the several subordinate Chapters.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed Comps. JOHN A. HARRIS, SAMUEL P. FORD and LUTHER W. NICHOLS, a Committee on Credentials.

On motion of Comp. D. R. MARSHALL,

Voted, That when the Grand Chapter shall call from labor it be to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning, and that 11 o'clock to-morrow be assigned for the choice of Grand Officers.

On motion of Comp. THOMAS E. HATCH,

Resolved, That all Companions, Royal Arch Masons in regular standing, be admitted to seats in this Grand Chapter as Visiting Companions.

The Committee on Credentials made the following report, which was accepted :

The Committee on Credentials having attended to the duty assigned them, report the following list of Grand Officers, P. G. Officers, Members and Visiting Companions, in attendance and entitled to seats in the Grand Chapter :

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *M. E. G. H. P.*

“ THOMAS E. HATCH, *E. D. G. H. P.*

“ WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS, *E. G. K.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *E. G. T.*

“ HORACE CHASE, *E. G. S.*

“ JAMES ADAMS, *E. G. C.*

“ DANIEL R. MARSHALL, *E. G. C. of H.*

“ LEWIS WOODMAN, *E. G. P. S.*

“ LUTHER W. NICHOLS, *E. G. R. A. C.*

“ CHARLES A. ROBINSON, *G. T.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. JOHN KNOWLTON, } *M. E. P. G. H. Priests.*
 " PHILEMON TOLLES, }
 " HORACE CHASE, *E. P. D. G. H. Priest.*

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

TRINITY CHAPTER, No. 2.

THOMAS J. SANBORN, *King.*
 JOHN A. HARRIS, *Scribe.*

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, No. 4.

JOHN H. ELLIOTT, *H. Priest.*
 E. F. LANE, *King.*
 CURTICE E. WILLARD, *proxy for Scribe.*

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, No. 5.

GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, *proxy for H. Priest.*
 S. P. FORD, *proxy for King.*
 W. M. RICHARDSON, *proxy for Scribe.*

WEBB CHAPTER, No. 6.

LEWIS WOODMAN, *proxy for High Priest.*
 S. G. KELLOGG, *proxy for King.*

MERIDIAN SUN CHAPTER, No. 9.

JACOB D. MARSH, *proxy for H. Priest.*
 JOHN C. KNOWLES, *King.*

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, No. 11.

JOHN D. PATTERSON, *High Priest*.GEORGE H. TRUE, *King*.

PETERBOROUGH CHAPTER, No. 12.

JAMES TEMPLETON, *King*.W. B. KIMBALL, *Scribe*.

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Comps. ADONIRAM SMALLEY, *St. Andrews. No. 1, U. D.*; HIRAM F. FLANDERS, *Trinity, No. 2*; EDWARD GUSTINE, S. S. WILKINSON, D. W. BUCKMINSTER, *Cheshire, No. 3*; JAMES R. YOUNG, CHARLES L. PLAISTED, THOS. J. SMITH, SAMUEL B. PAGE, HENRY O. KENT, *Franklin, No. 5*; L. J. GRAVES, R. S. STUBBS, *Webb, No. 6*; S. M. WHEELER, *Belknap, No. 8*; M. V. B. EDGERLY, *Mount Horeb, No. 11*; HENRY S. GEORGE, H. P., and HIRAM CLARK, *King, Pemigewassett Chapter, U. D.*

J. A. HARRIS, *for the Committee*.

The Grand Chapter was called from labor until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, June 12th, 1865.

The Grand Chapter re-assembled at 10 o'clock A. M., and resumed labor. Present, as yesterday.

The M. E. High Priest then read the following

ADDRESS.

Another year has passed away, and we, through the providence of the Grand Architect of the Universe, are again permitted to meet in Annual Convocation. The past year has been one of exciting events. For over four years our nation has been plunged in civil war; but looking forward through the smoke and din of battle, above party passion, we see, through the hand of a Divine Providence, the golden boon of peace restored to our distracted land, and our glorious old flag now floats proudly over an undivided country. But amid all our joy and prosperity, how much sorrow and mourning! Alas, how many of our noble brothers have fallen as martyrs upon the altar of Liberty! Upon the banks of the fair Potomac, in the loathsome swamps of the Chickahominy, upon the white sands of South Carolina, with the ever restless sea to chant their final requiem; upon every hill and vale,—in short, upon every spot where our armies have met in conflict, there may their graves be found. Rest, fallen brothers! Though no marble may mark your last resting place, though no kind friend may shed the tear of pity over your graves, still your memory is enshrined in every patriot heart. And now the whole nation mourns the loss of our honored Chief Magistrate, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, stricken down by the hand of an assassin; and well may the nation mourn, for he has been

the leader in the midst of all our perils, has safely guided our ship of state through its storm of war unto the haven of peace. We mourn for him as an honest, Christian man—as one who inspired the people with his confidence, and who exercised his power with “malice towards none, and with charity for all.”

The 1st of July I granted a dispensation to Comp. HENRY S. GEORGE and others to establish Pemigewasset Chapter at Plymouth.

November 26th I signed the charter of Peterborough Chapter, No. 12, granted at our last Annual Convocation, to Comps. JOHN H. STEELE, and others, of Peterborough.

In July I received a petition from the requisite number of Comps. at Lebanon, praying that St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 1, formerly located at Hanover, might be revived in Lebanon, but they not being able to find the charter, or anything belonging to said Chapter except the records, I did not feel authorized to revive the Chapter, but granted them a dispensation to organize and work, and await the action of the Grand Chapter at this session.

January 16th I visited Cheshire Chapter No. 4, at Keene. I was very cordially and hospitably received. The several chapter degrees were conferred in a very satisfactory, uniform and commendable manner. The officers were well versed and prompt in the duties of their several stations. The records are well kept, showing that the Chapter is in a prosperous and flourishing condition,

their meetings being well attended, and their membership very efficient. I had the pleasure of meeting Comp. PRENTISS, one of our oldest and most respected Companions in the State, having wrought as a Mason more than three score years.

January 17th I visited Webb Chapter, No. 6, at Claremont. The Excellent High Priest, our venerable Comp. LEWIS WOODMAN, was unable to be present on account of sickness, and most of the officers being absent, I did not have the pleasure of witnessing the work, as performed by them. The Companions wishing to prove that they could work under adverse circumstances, requested Comp. PRENTISS, who is not so old as Comp. PRENTISS of Keene, but still one who has long wrought in the mystic art, to perform the work in Mark Master's Degree, which he did in a very uniform and workmanlike manner, creditable to the Chapter and the royal art. The experience and assistance of Comp. PRENTISS must be of great value to the Chapter. This is one of the oldest working Chapters in the State. I had the pleasure of meeting quite a number who had long wrought in the quarries. Long may they be spared to us, to brighten the chains of friendship and furnish memorials for the craft!

January 20th I visited Pemigewassett Chapter, No. 13, under dispensation. They had done no work, in fact were hardly organized, having had their hall burnt, and much to discourage them. They had hardly recovered

from the first disaster when two of the petitioners left the place to serve their country, leaving them not enough to open a Chapter. We met together, and I spent what time I could in getting them started, with so much effect that I visited them March 1st, and assisted in conferring the Royal Arch Degree on six candidates. The Companions have shown commendable zeal and untiring industry in learning the work. I think they will make as good a working Chapter as any in the State. They will apply for a charter at this session, and I would cheerfully recommend that it be granted.

January 19th I visited Franklin, No. 5, at Lisbon. This Chapter was revived about six years since, having lain dormant for a long period. I was pleased to find they had the records entire, from its first formation. It is a large Chapter, being the fourth in the State in point of members, having had a very large jurisdiction. It however labors under the disadvantage of not having working members enough in Lisbon to fill the offices, some of the officers living at some distance, making attendance at the convocations uncertain. I witnessed the work in the several degrees. The work was performed at great disadvantage, some of the officers being absent, and most of those present having been recently elected to new offices, all of them had to depend on rituals during the work. They informed me that they should prepare themselves so as to dispense with them when at labor. I find they, as well as many other Chapters, are in the

habit of shortening the work in the Past and Most Excellent Master's degrees, even to communicating them, in order that the candidates may return home the same day.

I intended to have visited Belknap Chapter, No. 8, at Dover. Circumstances have rendered it impossible during the past year. I frequently heard a good report of their condition and manner of working, and from the well-known zeal and Masonic ability of its officers and companions, I may safely report that this Chapter will bear comparison with any in the State.

The other Chapters in the State I have not had the pleasure to visit, with the exception of Washington, No. 3, of which I am a member. From the remaining Chapters I have no doubt favorable accounts will be received at this session.

At no time has the Royal Art been in so prosperous and flourishing condition as at present. The utmost harmony prevails in their councils, and the work is done with a commendable degree of uniformity, each Chapter striving to attain perfection. To this end I would recommend that this Grand Chapter require the several Chapters to use some particular manual, to give the monitorial lessons. I observed, in my visits, that some Chapters use the Masonic Trestle-board, some the Book of the Chapter, and some Steward's Manual. I think there should be uniformity in this, as well as in work and

lectures. I would also recommend that some action of this Grand Chapter be taken in regard to Chapters communicating the Past and Most Excellent degrees. It is impossible to shorten or condense the work without injuring the harmony and beauty of the whole. I would suggest that the time of holding the regular convocations of the several chapters be printed in the Proceedings of this Grand Chapter.

I am happy to report that I have granted but four dispensations during the year. I think in future there will be but few cases in which they will be asked for. Undoubtedly there will be peculiar cases arise, and the power may be safely trusted to the officers this Grand Chapter may elect.

And now, Companions, as my official year is closing, I wish to return to this Grand Chapter, and to the members thereof, my sincere thanks for the honor you have been pleased to confer upon me. Especially would I thank our Most Excellent Grand Secretary for his valuable counsel and assistance. Long may he live to enjoy the satisfaction of being able, by his great experience, to impart instruction to the younger members of our beloved order! I would also thank the officers and companions of the several chapters for their uniform courtesy and kindness during my official relations. My engagements are such as to render it very inconvenient for me to occupy this position. I would therefore respectfully decline a re-election, feeling assured that the Companion

you may elect will safely guard the honor and dignity of our beloved order and promote its usefulness.

The E. Deputy Grand High Priest made his annual report.

REPORT OF THE E. DEPUTY GRAND HIGH PRIEST.

To the M. E. Grand R. A. Chapter of New-Hampshire :

In compliance with the customs of the craft, I present the following report of my official labors since our last Annual Convocation :

At the request of our M. E. Grand High Priest, I consented to perform the duties devolving upon him, of constituting Peterborough Chapter, No. 12, in the town of Peterborough, and installing its officers. Owing to a severe illness, I was unable to attend upon the time designated, and appointed M. E. P. G. H. P. JONAS LIVINGSTON as my proxy for that occasion. Comp. LIVINGSTON constituted the Chapter in due form, and installed the officers according to our ancient landmarks and regulations.

Upon the invitation of the officers and companions, I visited that Chapter March 24th, and assisted in conferring the several degrees. Peterborough Chapter has excellent materials for labor in its immediate vicinity, and will, I have no doubt, from the character of its officers and members, and the spirit they have shown in organizing under so many disadvantages and adverse cir-

cumstances, take high rank among the Chapters of our State, and be of essential service in diffusing the principles of the order among those whose lot is cast within the circle of its influence.

I have granted but two dispensations within the year to confer the degrees out of the usual course, as prescribed by the regulations of this Grand Chapter, being warranted in each instance, in my judgment, by the evident necessities of the case and the advantages accruing to the craft from my action.

It now only remains my painful duty to announce the death of WILLIAM LAMSON, Excellent King of Cheshire Chapter, No. 4, which took place at his residence in Keene, November 1st, 1864. Having known him from his earliest childhood, and having been brought into very intimate connection with him during the last five years of his life, in the labor of re-organizing and establishing our Chapter, I take great pleasure in bearing testimony to his high character as a man and a Mason, and to his fidelity and efficiency as an officer in the important stations which he held in the Chapter during that time. With a mind enlarged by liberal culture, he grasped the whole plan of our Royal Art, and carried its principles into all the walks of daily life.

Although suffering from a painful and incurable disease for years, he ever exhibited the patience of a true craftsman, and wrought upon the temple of his spiritual life

with a zeal and fidelity worthy of imitation by all brethren and companions. He entered the inner veil of the sacred sanctuary leaning upon the strong arm of faith, supported by the promises of our Great High Priest "to him that overcometh," and met the inevitable change appointed to all living,

"Not as the quarry-slave at night
Scourged to his dungeon; but, sustained and soothed
By an unfaltering trust, approached the grave
Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch
About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams."

As he was a member of this Grand Chapter at the time of his death, I recommend that a memorial page be set apart in the published report of the proceedings of this Convocation, as a tribute of respect to his memory.

Respectfully submitted.

THOS. E. HATCH, D. G. H. P.

On motion of Comp. J. A. HARRIS, the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest and report of E. Deputy Grand High Priest were referred to the Committee on Chapters.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then announced the following Standing Committees:

Committee on Chapters.—Comps. J. D. PATTERSON, LEWIS WOODMAN and WM. H. CUMMINGS.

Committee on Finance.—Comps. GREENLEAF CUMMINGS, PHILEMON TOLLES and DANIEL R. MARSHALL.

Comp. A. SMALLEY presented the petition of A. PUSHEE and others for the revival of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 1, last working in Lebanon, N. H., which was referred to the Committee on Chapters.

Comp. HIRAM CLARK presented the petition of HENRY S. GEORGE and others for a warrant of constitution to Pemigewassett Chapter, recently working at Plymouth under Dispensation.

Thereupon,

Voted, That a Warrant of Constitution for Pemigewassett Chapter be granted, and that the same be numbered 13.

The hour assigned for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, the M. E. Grand High Priest appointed Comps. E. F. LANE and JAMES TEMPLETON a Committee to collect and declare the state of votes, when, on counting the votes, Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK was declared unanimously elected.

Comp. HOLBROOK declining to serve as Grand High Priest, was excused by vote of the Grand Chapter.

On balloting a second time for M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. THOMAS E. HATCH of Keene was declared duly elected.

On continuing the election, the following Companions were severally declared duly elected:

COMP. WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS, E. Deputy G. High Priest, who declined, and on second ballot

COMP. N. W. CUMNER, Manchester, was elected *E. D. G. H. P.*

“ D. R. MARSHALL, Nashua, *E. Grand King.*

“ LEWIS WOODMAN, Claremont, *E. Grand Scribe.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *E. Grand Treasurer.*

“ HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *E. Grand Secretary.*

“ JAMES ADAMS, Candia, *E. Grand Chaplain.*

“ LUTHER W. NICHOLS, Concord, *E. Grand C. H.*

The Grand Chapter was called from labor till 2 o'clock
P. M.

AFTERNOON.

At two o'clock the Grand Chapter re-assembled, and was called to labor.

The M. E. High Priest elect made the following appointments :

Comp. WASHINGTON FREEMAN, Portsmouth, *G. P. Sojourner.*

“ JOHN A. HARRIS, Concord, *R. A. Captain.*

“ JACOB D. MARSH, Nashua, *G. Master of 3d V.*

“ WILLIAM D. KIMBALL, Peterborough, *G. Master of 2d V.*

“ HENRY S. GEORGE, Plymouth, *G. Master of 1st V.*

“ JAMES GOODWIN, Claremont, *Gr. Sen. Steward.*

“ THOMAS J. SPURLIN, Dover, *Gr. Jr. Steward.*

“ CHARLES A. ROBINSON, Concord, *G. Tyler.*

The M. E. Grand High Priest elect, after being duly installed by M. E. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, proceeded and installed all the other Grand Officers then present, in ample form.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Voted, That the Grand Treasurer be authorized to pay the bills for publishing notice of this Convocation when presented.

The Committee on Chapters made the following

REPORT:

The Committee on Chapters, in discharge of their duty, have briefly considered some of the suggestions contained in the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and report of the E. Deputy Grand High Priest, and on some of the subjects therein brought to their notice have thought proper to make certain recommendations for the action of this Grand Chapter. On the subject of working the degrees of Past and M. E. Master, as well as the M. M. and R. A. degrees, without abridgment or omission of any part, the Committee are impressed with the necessity that the Grand Chapter should express distinctly the importance of making a rule that shall render it obligatory upon all subordinate chapters to make no abridgment in working any of the degrees. The good of the order demands that every candidate receiving degrees shall have them in full, with all necessary instruction, that he may have any just appreciation of their real character, as well as a proper respect for the value and dignity of the order. They therefore recommend the passage of the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter require of all subordinate chapters, in conferring the degrees of Past and M. E. Master, as well as M. Master and R. Arch degrees, that they make no abridgment or omission in their work.

They also recommend that this Grand Chapter designate and fix upon some monitor or text-book, from which to give the monitorial part of the work and lectures in all the Chapter degrees, and for this purpose they designate Webb's Monitor as the best for that purpose.

They also recommend that the Grand Secretary be directed, in the preparation of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter for publication, to make return of the time when the several subordinate chapters have their regular Convocations.

They also recommend, in accordance with the suggestion of the E. Deputy Grand High Priest, that a memorial page be set apart in the published report of this Convocation, as a tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased Companion, WILLIAM LAMSON, of Cheshire Chapter.

The Committee further report that they have examined the application of A. PUSHEE and others, formerly members of St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 1, and other R. A. Masons, for a renewal of the charter of said Chapter, (the old charter being lost or destroyed,) and feel fully authorized in view of precedents and in justice to that Chapter, to recommend that their charter be renewed

without expense, except the usual fee to the Grand Secretary.

An examination of the returns of the several subordinate chapters exhibits good progress in increasing the membership throughout the State, and showing a good degree of interest and zeal in the order.

The returns the present year show the following progress and standing of the several chapters under this jurisdiction :

St. Andrew's Chapter, U D. No. 1,	8	Exalt.	26	Memb.	
Trinity Chapter,	2,	14	"	120	"
Washington Chapter,	3,	29	"	93	"
Cheshire Chapter,	4,	15	"	68	"
Franklin Chapter,	5,	12	"	112	"
Webb Chapter,	6,	22	"	96	"
Belknap Chapter,	8,	15	"	155	"
Meridian Sun Chapter,	9,	14	"	61	"
Mount Horeb Chapter,	11,	7	"	123	"
Peterborough Chapter,	12,	9	"	18	"
Pemigewasset Chapter, U.D.	13,	14	"		
Whole No. of Chapters,	11,	159	"	872	"

JOHN D. PATTERSON,	}	Committee.
LEWIS WOODMAN,		
W. H. CUMMINGS,		

Which report was accepted, and the resolution was adopted, and recommendations reported by the Committee all concurred in.

On motion of Comp. JOHN A. HARRIS,

Voted, That the proceedings of this Convocation be published, and that the Grand Secretary prepare a report on Foreign Correspondence, and be paid a reasonable compensation therefor, and that the same be published with the proceedings.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance have attended to their duty and find the Grand Treasurer chargeable as follows :

To balance in his hands reported last	
year, - - - - -	\$355 30
To cash of Grand Secretary, Jan., 1865,	90 00
To interest on the balance last year,	
after paying bills, - - - -	12 05
To cash of Grand Sec'y, June 13, 1865,	318 00
	<hr/>
	775 35

Credit for monies paid out :

By cash paid the Grand Secretary, -	\$15 00
By cash paid E. W. Harrington, by	
vote of Grand Chapter, - -	11 40
By cash paid C. F. Livingston, bill for	
printing proceedings, - - -	87 76
	<hr/>
	114 16
Balance in hands of the Grand Treasurer,	<hr/>
	\$661 19

The following unpaid bills are in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, awaiting the action of this Grand Chapter, which the Committee recommend to be allowed and paid :

Comp. J. R. Holbrook, for 1864,	-	\$6 50
“ “ “ “ 1865,	-	28 05
“ Chas. A. Robinson, Grand	-	
Tyler for 1865,	- - -	4 00
Balance due to the Grand Secretary,	-	58 72
Commission of 1 per cent. due the		
Grand Treasurer,	- - -	7 75
		<hr/>
		105 02
		<hr/>

Remaining in the Grand Treasurer's hands,
after paying said bills, the sum of \$556 17

Which is respectfully submitted.

G. CUMMINGS,	}	Committee.
DANIEL R. MARSHALL,		
PHILEMON TOLLES,		

June 13, 1865.

Which report was accepted, and bills reported ordered to be paid.

The resolution to change the time of the Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter, offered by Comp. WILCOX in 1863, and postponed to this time, which is as follows :

Resolved, That Article II of the Grand Regulations be amended by striking out the words "on Monday next following the first Wednesday of June, at four o'clock in the afternoon," and inserting instead thereof, "on the second Tuesday of July, annually, at eleven o'clock in the forenoon," was taken up, when Comp. W. H. CUMMINGS proposed to amend said resolution by striking out the words "on the second Tuesday of July," and insert instead thereof the words "on Tuesday next following the first Wednesday of June."

The question being taken on the adoption of the proposed amendment to the resolution, it was decided in the affirmative.

The question was then taken upon the adoption of the resolution as amended, and was decided in the affirmative, so that the second article of the Grand Regulations, as amended, will read as follows :

ARTICLE II.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter shall meet in Concord on the Tuesday next following the first Wednesday of June, annually, at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, or at such other time and place as the Grand Chapter may at any Annual Convocation direct.

On motion of Comp. J. D. PATTERSON, the Grand Chapter proceeded to exemplify the work on the Mark

Master's degree, under the direction of Comp. JOHN D. HOLBROOK, acting as R. W. Master, assisted by Comp. J. D. PATTERSON, acting as Senior Grand Warden, and Comp. GEORGE H. TRUE, acting as Junior Grand Warden.

After the exemplification of the work, there being no further business before the Grand Chapter, it was closed in ample form.

A true record. Attest :

HORACE CHASE,

Grand Secretary.

• Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest :

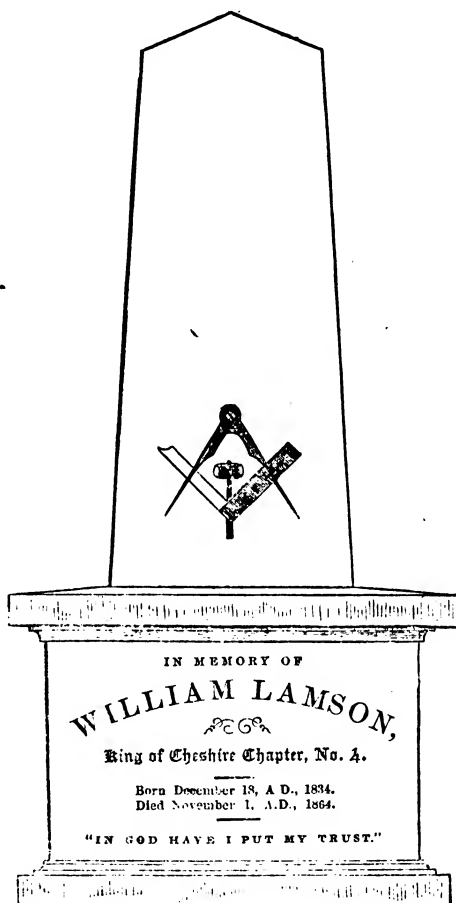
THOMAS E. HATCH, Esq.,

Keene, N. H.

Address of the E. Grand Secretary :

HON. HORACE CHASE,

Hopkinton, N. H.



AN ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

June, A. D., 1865.

Chapter.	No.	Location.	Mem.	Exalt.	Dues	High Priests.	Secretaries.	Time of Stated Meetings.
ST. ANDREWS.....	1	Lebanon,.....	26	8	\$16	ABRAM FUSHEE,	ADONRIAM SMALLLEY,	Tuesday, on or after F. M.
TRINITY.....	2	Concord,.....	120	14	28	ALBERT H. DROWN,	JAS. W. HILDRETH,	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
WASHINGTON.....	3	Portsmouth,.....	93	29	58	WILLIAM P. WALKER,	OLIVER G. FERNALD,	Fourth Tuesday of every mo.
CHESHIRE	4	Keene,	68	15	30	JOHN H. ELLIOT,	GEO. S. WOODWARD,	Monday on or after F. M.
FRANKLIN	5	Lisbon,	112	12	24	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	GREENLEAF CUMMINGS	Thurs. of w'k after w'k of F. M.
WEBB.....	6	Claremont,	96	22	44	W. M. LADD,	T. R. GOWDEY,	Friday nearest F. M.
BELKNAP.....	8	Dover,	155	15	30	THOMAS SPURLIN,	AMASA A. ROBERTS,	Third Monday in each month
MERIDIAN SUN.....	9	Nashua,	61	14	28	EDWARD PARKER.	JACOB D. MARSH,	Monday on or before F. M.
MOUNT HOBB.....	11	Manchester,.....	123	7	14	JOHN D. PATTERSON,	S. B. KIDDER,	2d Wednesday in each month
PETERBOROUGH	12	Peterborough,	18	9	18	JOHN H. STEELE,	P. S. CHENEY,	Tuesday on or before F. M.
PEMIGEWASSETT, U.D.	13	Plymouth,	872	14	28	HENRY S. GEORGE.	E. K. KELLEY,	
			872	159	\$318			

A P P E N D I X.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Notwithstanding our repeated resolutions that each report by us prepared should be our last, the labor is again put upon us, which we shall endeavor without further apology to perform with what little ability and time we can command.

We have before us the following journals of proceedings of Grand Chapters, to wit: California and Canada for 1864; Florida for 1863 and 1864; Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Maryland and District of Columbia, Massachusetts and Vermont, for 1864. These we shall consider in their order.

CALIFORNIA.

The eleventh Grand Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at San Francisco October 26th, 1864, M.: E.: EZRA VAN DECAR, Grand High Priest, presiding:

Twenty-nine out of thirty-two chartered Chapters were represented. There were present two Past Grand High Priests, and twenty-seven Past High Priests, twelve of whom are reported as present High Priests.

The Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is brief, and mainly applicable to that jurisdiction. His remarks on the responsibilities of representatives of masonic grand bodies are pertinent and applicable to all grand bodies, in all jurisdictions, and in all coming time, and worthy of careful consideration. We quote his language as follows. He says:

"These constantly recurring periods which the rulers of representative bodies assign for themselves, and at which they meet in Convention to exercise those powers confided to them, are fraught with a responsibility that is not always appreciated by the actors, not that they are unmindful of the duty they owe to those who clothed them with delegated authority, but that in the exercise of their privileges they too often forget that the laws and landmarks which have been the result of the wisdom of centuries are immutable, and that the progressive character of the present age is not always conducive to the welfare of the human race. History will devote to the present period an important page. In many things its dark actions will be told by the same pen that records the deeds of its heroes; and that our Order will not be conspicuous therein, is in consequence of its most venerable characteristics being remembered; for by adhering to that conservatism which should always be observed by its votaries, and which has preserved it through decades of centuries, and convulsions of kingdoms and empires, we are permitted to assemble and kneel around our sacred altar, and invoke the blessing of the great I AM."

Two dispensations for Chapters were granted during the year, and both chartered at that Grand Convocation.

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is an able and candid review of the proceeding of nineteen Grand Chapters, by Comp. LAWRENCE C. OWEN, Grand Secretary. From a list of thirty-four subordinate Chapters, with a summary of their returns, we get the following statistics: Name and number of each Chapter, town and county where located, and when chartered, showing an aggregate of one hundred and seventy marked, one hundred and fifty-six passed, one hundred and forty-six received, one hundred and forty-six exalted, 20 affiliated, seventy-six withdrawn, twenty suspended for non-payment of dues, two for unmasonic conduct, thirteen excluded, three restored, twenty-one died, two rejected, thirty M. Masters, thirty-six P. M., eleven M. E. M., 1211 R. A. Masons.

Comp. ISAAC DAVIS, Sacramento, was elected M. E. G. H. Priest, and LAWRENCE C. OWEN, San Francisco, was re-elected Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

This Grand Chapter held its seventh Annual Convocation in Quebec, August 9, 1864, M. E. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z., presiding.

Owing to indisposition, the address of the M. E. Grand Z. was brief, and mostly confined to matters of interest only to that jurisdiction. In allusion to the royal family, he says :

"Last year my predecessor took loyal notice of the auspicious marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales. It is my pleasing privilege to

make mention of the birth of a Prince, the first fruit of that union, and an event which has given comfort to our widowed Sovereign, diffused joy throughout the British Empire, and to the well known loyalty of the craft been a welcome source of congratulation. May the illustrious parents, the hope and pride of the nation, have continually increasing happiness, and may God save and bless the Queen."

In reference to our national troubles, he says:

"The miserable civil war still exists in the neighboring States, causing ruin and grief throughout the land; but Freemasonry, though it cannot prevent, has there proved its beneficent power to mitigate suffering and distress; and our order will ever be found side by side with mercy and humanity, provided its numerous members are only true to its attributes and themselves."

The proceedings give an abstract of the returns of the subordinate Chapters, with the names of the first four officers, and number of members of each. No farther statistics are given. We have neither the time nor inclination to count up and ascertain the number of affiliated R. A. Masons within that jurisdiction.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. JAMES SEYMOUR, Chairman of the committee, is a candid and impartial review of thirteen Grand Chapters, with the exception of that of Scotland, all within the United States. In speaking of the condition of capitular masonry, the committee speak cautiously, fraternally, and encouragingly, as follows:

"On examining the proceedings furnished them, your committee are pleased to find a healthy tone prevalent throughout, and that the progress of the Royal Craft continues to be steady and enduring. In a

few instances, however, war's devastating influence has operated disastrously to the successful working of Chapters in disturbed States; but on the whole, evidence is not wanting that our United States Companions are alive to their duty in this respect, and will in due time, by closely adhering to the exalted teachings of our Order, overcome these hindrances, which are but trials of their fidelity, to nerve them up to greater fervency and zeal. It is also cheering to observe an absence of that acrimonious spirit, in discussing their unfortunate troubles, which was at the outset so strongly apparent in some instances, and greatly to be deplored, as destructive of that masonic charity and fraternal feeling which should always govern members of the same family in judging of each other's actions."

In concluding their labors, the committee "beg to express their high sense of the valuable compilations prepared by the several committees of sister Grand Chapters, the perusal of which has afforded them much information that they could not otherwise have obtained. Always well digested and entertaining, and with but rare exceptions, written in a truly masonic spirit, there is no portion of the proceedings that they rise from reading with more genuine satisfaction than the Foreign Correspondence."

M. E. Comp. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Quebec, was re-elected Grand Z., and R. E. Comp. THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, Hamilton, was re-elected Grand Scribe E., which answers to Grand Secretary with us.

FLORIDA.

We greet the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Florida for 1863 and 1864 with a hearty welcome, as

their reception furnishes indisputable evidence that our worthy Companions in Florida are desirous of reviving that fraternal masonic intercourse which four years since was interrupted, and which they embrace the first opportunity to renew.

These proceedings are brief, those of 1863 occupying ten pages, and those of 1864 but nine pages. To those of 1863 is appended an abridged history of the Grand Chapter of Florida, from its organization in 1847 to 1862, inclusive.

In the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. GEORGE F. BALTZELL, for 1863, he feelingly alludes to the death of P. G. High Priest RICHARD A. SHINE, and ex-Governor Comp. R. K. CALL, and recommends to the Grand Chapter to take such action as will testify their appreciation of their services as eminent and faithful public servants.

At the Annual Convocation in Tallahassee, January, 1864, the M. E. Grand High Priest was providentially prevented attending, consequently it contains no annual address. There is no report on Foreign Correspondence for either 1863 or 1864.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, GEORGE F. BALTZELL, and Grand Secretary, Comp. HUGH A. CORLEY, were re-elected, but their places of residence are nowhere to be found.

On looking at the returns of subordinate Chapters, we find that the Grand High Priest is returned as a member

of Greenwood Chapter, at Greenwood, and the Grand Secretary as a member of Florida Chapter, at Tallahassee.

We are obliged to say that these proceedings are otherwise very defective, as they show neither the number of Chapters, members, or exaltations. We hope in future to see an improvement in this particular.

ILLINOIS.

The fifteenth Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Illinois was held at Springfield, October 7, 1864. This Grand Chapter had on its roll subordinate Chapters numbering from one to sixty-three. Forty-one were represented; forty-eight made returns and paid dues. The committee on Chapters U. D. reported in favor of granting warrants of Constitution to nine Chapters U. D., which was adopted.

The returns give the number of members, amount of dues, number exalted, &c., but not being footed, we are not able to give the aggregate of each.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, H. W. HUBBARD, is almost wholly a report of his official acts during the year, showing that capitular masonry in that jurisdiction is in a prosperous and flourishing condition.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is a concise review of the proceedings of thirteen Grand Chapters, with few comments, by a committee of which the Grand Secretary was chairman.

Comp. WILEY M. EGAN, Chicago, was elected M. E.

Grand High Priest, and Comp. HARMON G. REYNOLDS, Springfield, was re-elected E. Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Indianapolis on the 18th and 19th of May, 1864. Its subordinates number forty-eight duly constituted Chapters, and two under dispensation. All but nine were represented in Grand Chapter. Number of members, one thousand four hundred and fifty; estimated of those not returned, eighty—equalling one thousand five hundred and thirty; exalted, one hundred and twenty-five.

The Grand High Priest, in his address, reports his decision upon a question that often arises in our own jurisdiction, and one of no small importance, that of conferring the degrees on maimed persons. As the rule is not well understood in this jurisdiction, or, if understood, often disregarded, we deem it important to state the decision of the Grand High Priest in his own words, the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence on the same subject, and action of the Grand Chapter thereon. The Grand High Priest says :

“Comp. HENRY W. DANIELS, High Priest of Green Castle Chapter, No. 22, solicited my opinion in regard to the propriety of conferring the Chapter Degrees upon Brother KERCHEVAL, for many years a Master Mason, and Master of the Lodge, who has lost his left arm in the service of his country.

I replied, that, in my opinion, he was capable of receiving, understanding, and communicating the Degrees, and that the Chapter would have authority to confer them. Freemasonry will not require a more perfect physical organization than would be necessary in the commander of an army, or in the occupant of a seat in Cabinet or the Presidential chair,—

“The mind’s the standard of the man.”

We are pleased to find that the Committee on Jurisprudence dissented to the doctrine held by the Grand High Priest, and in their report state the true principle that should govern in like cases. Comp. HACKER, chairman of the Committee on Jurisprudence, reported as follows :

“The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred so much of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest’s Address as relates to Green Castle Chapter, No. 22, would report,—

That they much regret the necessity that compels them to differ with the Most Excellent Grand High Priest in the views he has expressed in this case.

While your committee freely admit the truth of the maxim that “The mind’s the standard of the man,” they cannot admit that the mind is the whole of the man, and all the pre-requisites which render him eligible to be made a Royal Arch Mason.

Your committee could, with equal propriety, quote the words of him “who spake as never man spake,”—that “from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh”; yet all very well know that Masonry has a universal language, whose utterances, while they are prompted by the impulses of the heart, are not expressed through the mouth at all; and it is this peculiar language that constitutes the distinctive feature in our organization.

Your committee, therefore, think the decision of the Most Excellent Grand High Priest, given in this particular case, to be erroneous; for he who is incapacitated by physical defects from learning, or correctly

speaking, this universal language, is thereby wholly unqualified to be made a Royal Arch Mason.

Rule 33 of the Rules for the Government of Subordinate Chapters reads as follows :

When the physical disability of a candidate is not such as to prevent him from complying literally with the ceremonies of the degree, his admission will not be considered an infringement of the Ancient Landmarks.

Now, your committee would suggest that a Brother who had lost his left arm could not comply literally with the ceremonies of either of the degrees, not only in one, but in many particulars.

Your committee further believe that it is best to adhere strictly to the "old Landmarks," — that all applicants for the privileges of Masonry must be perfect, '*having no maim or defect in his body that may render him incapable of learning the Art.*'"

Upon the question of adopting the report, the yeas and nays were called, and resulted in yeas, 107; nays, 8. So the report was adopted, and this vexed question was settled at least in that jurisdiction, and we believe rightly settled, and we could wish that the same rule might be adopted and strictly regarded and adhered to within our own jurisdiction.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by the M. E. Grand High Priest, and is concise and well written, judicious in selections, and breathes the true masonic spirit. He concludes his report with the following beautiful and fraternal sentiment :

"Our labors in this regard are now brought to a close. We have found it indeed a labor of love. At every step of our progress we have been cheered with the evidences presented of the prosperity of the Craft. Civil commotions and the heat of partizan strife have only rendered more conspicuous the beauties of our Order: and to-day, as it stands ready

with its mantle of love to embrace the whole world in its charity, it is more dear to those who worship at its shrine than ever before.

The loyalty of masonry is an indisputable fact. It speaks the same language everywhere, East and West, North and South—from that oriental shore which earliest greets the morning sun to the western slope,

“Where rolls the mighty Oregon,”

its language is that of loyalty and devotion to our native land.

And thus may it ever be! And may the day be hastened when the world shall see written upon our national escutcheon, as by the finger of Omnipotence, these words, ‘*Esto perpetua!*’—live forever!”

Comp. SOL. D. BAYLESS, Fort Wayne, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. FRANCIS KING, Indianapolis, re-elected E. Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

Annual Convocation at Portland, May, 2, 1864, Comp. JOHN J. BELL, M. E. Grand High Priest, presiding.

Within this jurisdiction were thirteen regularly constituted Chapters, all represented.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is a straightforward, business-like document, evincing an unwavering attachment to the Order, untiring zeal in promoting its advancement, and a faithful discharge of his official duties.

He reports having granted, during the year of his administration, four dispensations for new Chapters, and recommends that charters be granted. He closes his address and dissolves his connection with that Grand

Body in the following effusion of affectionate regard for its success and prosperity :

“Companions, I have filled the chair in this Grand Chapter for the customary period, and now resign to you the honors and responsibilities with which you have entrusted me ; and as I am about to remove from the State and it is hardly probable that I shall again meet with you in Grand Chapter, permit me to express the feelings of satisfaction which my long association with this body has produced, and to wish you and your successors in this Grand Chapter all that success which is due to the pure principles we profess ; and though far distant in body, still my mind will always revert to the pleasant recollections of these, our May meetings.”

The report on Foreign Correspondence was by Comp. and Rev. CYRIL PEARL, than whom none could write better, and but few could equal ; but he has made his last report on earth, and gone to meet his reward, we trust to his eternal rest and refreshment in heaven, where all is peace and joy.

Comp. ANDREW J. FULLER, Bath, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. IRA BERRY, Portland, re-elected E. Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in Baltimore, November 14, 1864.

Upon the roll we find ten subordinate Chapters, six in Maryland and four in the District of Columbia. All except one made returns. Number of members returned,

seven hundred and thirteen; exaltations, one hundred and eighty-four; rejected, fourteen; dues, \$539.50.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. J. L. YEATES, is a well-written, interesting and instructive masonic document.

In speaking of the present condition and progress of capitular masonry within his jurisdiction, he says:

“ During the past year, save the unhappy distraction of our common country, Royal Arch Masonry has been advancing in all its pristine happiness and glory, and, so far as I know, without the occurrence of anything whatever calculated to mar its usefulness and prosperity. Within this jurisdiction it has flourished, perhaps, beyond all precedent, and is still moving onward and forward, expanding and spreading, I hope, with profit to ourselves and the advantage of the community. But, we must remember, companions, that the true value of our mystic science is not attributable to numerical force, but to the real worth, industry and intelligence of our members; numbers may come into our courts and rally under our banners, and yet be as unproductive as drones, in the hive, and who, possessing neither industry or ambition, will never aspire to work off a single design from the trestle-board, or add a solitary ashler to the temple. How careful then, should we be to admit none within the veils but such as are fully qualified and willing to cultivate that “ Friendship,” “ Union,” “ Fervent zeal,” and “ Purity of heart,” which alone should entitle us to the noble name of Masons.

He reports having made several decisions in masonic jurisprudence, in all which we heartily concur, more particularly his decision in regard to the propriety of conferring degrees upon maimed and deformed candidates, a subject to which we have before alluded, and as the rule as settled by the General Grand Chapter, and adopted in many jurisdictions, seems not to be well understood in

this, or if understood, in numerous instances disregarded, we quote in his language a case presented to him, and his decision. He says:

"Sometime since, a case of novel character was presented—that of an officer of a neighboring State, a worthy Master Mason, who brought with him a recommendation and request from a Chapter in his State to a Chapter within this jurisdiction, that his application for the Royal Arch Degrees might be received and granted; but, prior to the presentation of his application, he had the misfortune to lose his arm in battle; the question presented was, is it possible to confer the Royal Arch Degrees or any of them, upon a brother so much deformed? I answered, no! because, although ancient Masonry required of every new-made member that he should be perfect, without maim or defect, and which modern Masonry has so far altered as to require only a simple capability of conforming to all our requirements, yet, in this particular case, there was an utter incapacity for this; and if by the aid of science, an artificial arm could be constructed which would enable him to perform all the rest, how could it be possible for him to assist in forming the *living* Arch? In connection with this case it was suggested, and as I was informed by a prominent member of our Order, that the degrees could be conferred by *proxy*; but this suggestion seemed to me so monstrous and repugnant to all the principles and practices of Masonry, as not to be entertained for a single moment."

He called the attention of his Grand Chapter to a practice which he says is prevalent in some, if not all of the Chapters in that jurisdiction, that of calling off and resuming labor by proclamation, instead of opening and and closing in due form, and enters his protest against the practice, and says that an esteemed and reputable Companion informed him that he was a regular member of a Chapter and attended its meetings with due diligence

for eighteen months, without seeing his Chapter either opened or closed in due form.

We hope, for the honor of Royal Arch Masonry, this practice has not obtained in this jurisdiction. The idea of opening or closing a Chapter of Royal Arch Masons by proclamation is certainly new to us. It is not within our recollection of ever having seen a Chapter opened or closed in that style. It is difficult to conceive how important information can be imparted by this mode.

There is no report on Foreign Correspondence.

Comp. J. L. YEATES was re-elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. MORRIS SMITH, E. Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

We have before us the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts, at stated Convocations, which their Secretary terms Communications, December 8, 1863, March 8, June 7, and Annual Convocation, September 13, 1864, and stated Convocation, December 13, 1864. No address of Grand High Priest. Very little more was done at the September meeting than the election and installation of officers.

We find in the proceedings of December, 1864, appropriate resolutions reported by a committee appointed at a previous meeting, upon the death of their venerable, much esteemed and worthy Companion, JOHN B. HAMMATT, P. G. High Priest.

We had the pleasure, a few years since, of having an introduction to Comp. HAMMATT, then over eighty years of age, and retaining all his mental powers to a wonderful degree. He informed us that when Trinity Chapter, the second in this State, was organized in Hopkinton, he attended, consecrated the Chapter, installed its officers, and remained two weeks in giving instruction. He named the officers then installed, and many of the old members whom we knew, and who had then departed this life. In connection with the above facts, it may be interesting to know in what estimation he was held in his own jurisdiction. We therefore ask to be excused for inserting those resolutions entire :

“Whereas, It has pleased the Supreme Architect of the universe to remove, as we trust, to a better world, our late Companion JOHN B. HAMMATT, Past Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That in his death one of the brightest lights in the Masonic horizon has been extinguished, that one of the most devoted friends of the Order has been removed from among us.

Resolved, That although his usefulness for over half a century has been prolonged to the Fraternity, and he has realized the assurance, ‘That the days of our years are three-score years and ten, and if by reason of strength they be four-score years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow,’ still in the remembrance of his devotedness to the interests of the Masonic Institution we cannot but sincerely deplore his loss.

Resolved, That in calling to mind the virtues of our departed Companion and his accomplishments as a Mason, which endeared him to many friends, and exalted him to the highest honors, we lament that on this occasion so little justice can be done to his memory. For his fidelity to the Order, his punctuality and attention in the path of duty, his unassuming deportment, his courteous and cordial address, his spotless

integrity in business, and, we have reason to believe, his unfeigned Christian meekness during a protracted Masonic career of above sixty years, deserve more than a brief resolution in such a life ; but his character is written down on our memory. We knew him as among the foremost defenders of our Institution in the dark days of persecution ; he has since been with us in our meridian prosperity, and to whom can we compare this noble and exemplary Mason with more fitness than to one of those whose memorial stands in our memory among the most beautiful emblems of Masonry.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of the Grand Chapter.

We also notice in the proceedings a report of a committee on the death of Comp. and Rev. BENJAMIN HUNTOON, a native of Salisbury, in this State, and a graduate of Dartmouth College in the class of 1817, with whom we formed an early acquaintance, and who became a distinguished Mason, and held the office of M. E. Grand High Priest of the Grand Chapter in Massachusetts 1849, 1850 and 1851. In the language of the report, which we can most heartily indorse, " He was a good man and true (and these words to us have a peculiar significance). Possessing a genial temper, affable manners, gentlemanly deportment, and a kind and sympathizing heart, he secured the respect and affection of a large circle of friends, who, while they mourn his loss, are consoled with the belief that he is now among those of whom it is said, 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.' "

We also notice the report by a committee of appropriate resolutions upon the death of M. E. EDWARD

A. RAYMOND, a distinguished and highly esteemed Companion, and who was several years Treasurer of the General Grand R. A. Chapter.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. JAMES KIMBALL, is an able and candid review of the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters. Selections from their proceedings are judicious, and comments and criticisms appropriate and just.

The returns of twenty-eight Grand Chapters show two thousand four hundred and sixty-nine members, and six hundred and nine exaltations, showing an increase over 1863 of four hundred and thirty-four members, and three hundred and nine exaltations. M. E. SOLON THORNTON was re-elected Grand High Priest, and E. THOMAS WATERMAN was re-elected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

This Grand Chapter was opened at St. Albans on the first Wednesday of October, 1864, M. E. GAMALIEL WASHBURN, Grand High Priest, presiding.

In his annual address, the M. E. Grand High Priest feelingly and affectionately alludes to the death during the year of four worthy Companions, WEBSTER, ROLFE, TAPLIN and CRANE. Comp. WEBSTER was P. G. High Priest, and all the others had held important and responsible offices in the Grand Masonic bodies.

In addition to the above we find a memorial page to the memory of Comp. NICHOLS, who was killed at Brat-

tleborough, January 7, 1864, making five Royal Arch Masons who died in Vermont between December 30, 1863, and January 13, 1864.

The M. E. Grand High Priest closes his address with the following excellent advice and Christian sentiment :

“ In conclusion, Companions, I trust our present meeting will be attended with good results to the craft generally, as well as ourselves ; and while our sands are fast running out, and our ranks being thinned by here and there a broken column, it becomes us to work while the day lasts, for soon the night of death will come, wherein no man can work. May we be actuated by high and holy motives, dispensing that charity which suffereth long and is kind ; for charity and prayer are the wings on which the soul flies to heaven. In all our mutual intercourse with mankind, let us manifest by our daily walk and deportment that we are determined to follow on to know the Lord, whom to know aright is life eternal.”

The report of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. C. F. DANA, is a fair, fraternal and impartial review of the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters.

Returns of thirteen subordinate Chapters are given, but no statistics further than number of members, deaths and dismissions, are given, and these are not footed, so that we cannot tell the aggregate of each without more labor than we have time or inclination to bestow.

In closing our report, we would say that our examination gives us the gratifying assurance that Royal Arch Masonry is in a highly prosperous, harmonious and increasing condition. We cannot avoid the reflection,

however, as we reviewed the proceedings of Grand Masonic Bodies, that the strength, influence and respectability of the Masonic institution depends less upon numbers than upon the moral worth of the individual members, and that more is to be feared from a careless and unfaithful guarding against the admission of unworthy members than from all other causes combined.

With this reflection we submit our report, with all the imperfections consequent on poor health and press of other duties.

HORACE CHASE.

List of Principal Officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New-Hampshire since its organization in 1819.

Grand High Priest.	D. G. High Priest.	Grand King.	Grand Scribe.	Grand Secretary.	Year.
JOHN HARRIS,*	THOMAS S. BOWLES,*	HENRY HUTCHINSON,*	BROUGHTON WHITE,*	THOMAS W. COLBY,*	1819
"	"	BROUGHTON WHITE,*	HENRY HUTCHINSON,*	"	1820
THOMAS S. BOWLES,*	JOHN PRENTISS,	TIMOTHY KENRICK,*	H. G. HARRIS,	"	1821
JONATHAN NYE,*	JAMES F. DANA,*	SAMUEL CUSHMAN,*	EDWARD DEAN,	"	1822
THOMAS W. COLBY,*	ALPHEUS BAKER,	DANIEL BRADFORD,	NATHAN BINGHAM,	TIMOTHY KENRICK,*	1823
SAMUEL CUSHMAN,*	ARTEMAS ROGERS,*	THOMAS BEEDE,*	GODFREY STEVENS,*	"	1824
"	"	"	FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	"	1825
"	FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	JOSEPH W. WHITE,*	OLIVER HEATON,	ALBE CADY,*	1826
FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	JOSEPH E. WHITE,	OLIVER HEATON,	HORACE CHASE,	"	1827
"	JOSEPH W. WHITE,*	"	"	"	1828
"	ANDREW PIERCE,*	HORACE CHASE,	B. L. GREENOUGH,	"	1829
ANDREW PIERCE,*	HORACE CHASE,	B. L. GREENOUGH,	WM. BOARDMAN,	"	1830
"	ARTEMAS ROGERS,*	ROBERT SMITH,*	STEPHEN S. PALMER,	"	1831
JONATHAN NYE,*	ROBERT SMITH,*	CALVIN BENTON,*	B. L. GREENOUGH,	"	1832
ROBERT SMITH,*	B. L. GREENOUGH,	WILLIAM BOARDMAN,	CHARLES LANE,	"	1833
B. L. GREENOUGH,	LEMUEL L. BAKER,	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,	CALEB WENTWORTH,	"	1834
"	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	JONATHAN NYE,*	CHARLES LANE,	"	1835
"	"	"	"	"	1836
ROBERT SMITH,*	WEARE TAPPAN,	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	ABEL HUTCHINS,*	"	1837
"	"	"	"	"	1838
WEARE TAPPAN,	ABEL HUTCHINS,*	DANIEL CHASE,*	DAVID PARKER,*	"	1839
"	"	"	"	"	1840
DANIEL CHASE,*	"	DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	"	1841

"	"	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	"	1842
"	DAVID PARKER,*	JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	1843
DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	"	JAMES COLLINS,	1844
"	"	JAMES COLLINS,	"	1845
PHILEMON TOLLES,*	JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	1846
"	"	HORACE CHASE,	HORACE CHASE,	1847
JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	JOHN J. PRENTISS,	NICHOLAS FOWLER,*	1848
"	HORACE FESSENDEN,*	ALBERT R. HATCH,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	1849
JOHN J. PRENTISS,	DANIEL BALCH,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	WILLIAM CARR,	1850
DANIEL BALCH,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	"	"	1851
"	"	T. T. ABBOT,	T. T. ABBOT,	1852
ALBERT R. HATCH,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	"	MOSES PAUL,*	1853
"	"	SAMUEL KELLEY,	"	1854
ALBERT R. HATCH,	"	MOSES PAUL,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	1855
JOHN CHRISTIE,	T. T. ABBOT,	"	JERE. F. DANIELL,	1856
"	"	JOEREMIAH F. DANIELL	GEORGE H. HUBBARD,	1857
THEODORE T. ABBOT,	MOSES PAUL,*	GEO. H. HUBBARD,	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	1858
"	"	"	"	1859
MOSES PAUL,*	GEO. H. HUBBARD,	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	RICHARD N. ROSS,	1860
JONAS LIVINGSTON,	SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	E. W. HARRINGTON,	THOMAS PEARSON,	1861
SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	E. W. HARRINGTON,	THOMAS PEARSON,	RICHARD N. ROSS,	1862
E. W. HARRINGTON,	JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	THOMAS E. HATCH,	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	1863
JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	THOS. E. HATCH,	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	N. W. CUMNER,	1864
THOMAS E. HATCH.	N. W. CUMNER,	D. R. MARSHALL,	LEWIS WOODMAN,	1865

* Dead.

Order of High Priesthood.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF HIGH PRIESTS

1865.

A Convention of High Priests of the State of New Hampshire was held at Concord, June 12, 1865.
Present:

Comp. HORACE CHASE, *President.*

“ WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS, *Secretary.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *Chaplain.*

“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *Conductor.*

MEMBERS.

Comp. LEWIS WOODMAN.

“ THOMAS E. HATCH.

A Council of High Priests being duly organized and opened, the certificates of election and installation of the following Companions as High Priests of subordinate Chapters were presented, to wit: of J. H. ELLIOT of Cheshire Chapter, No. 4, and JOHN D. PATTERSON of

Mount Horeb Chapter, No. 11, were presented, and they were severally introduced, set apart, and consecrated to the order of High Priesthood in solemn form.

The Council then proceeded to the election of officers for the year ensuing, and the following Companions were declared duly elected :

COMP. THOMAS E. HATCH, *President*.

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *Vice President*.

“ HORACE CHASE, *Secretary*.

“ JOHN D. PATTERSON, *Chaplain*.

“ WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS, *Herald*.

“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *Conductor*.

“ LEWIS WOODMAN, *Master of Ceremonies*.

“ JOHN H. ELLIOT, *Guard*.

On motion, the President, Vice President and Secretary, were appointed a committee to procure a diploma for the order of High Priesthood.

The convention was then closed in due form.

Attest :

HORACE CHASE, *Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
AT ITS
Annual Convocation, held at Concord,

JUNE



1866.

MANCHESTER :
PRINTED BY C. F. LIVINGSTON, SMYTH'S BLOCK,
1866.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



ree masons, New Hampshire.
Royal Arch Masons, Grand Chapter.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Grand Royal Arch Chapter

OF THE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,

AT ITS

ANNUAL CONVOCATION, HELD AT CONCORD,

JUNE 12, 1866.



MANCHESTER:

PRINTED BY CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON, SMYTH'S BLOCK.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE,
1866.

The Annual Convocation of the M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire was held at Concord on Tuesday, June 12, A. D. 1866, A. I. 2396.

A quorum of Grand Officers and members being present, the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. THOMAS E. HATCH proceeded to open the Grand Chapter in ample form, with prayer by Comp. and Rev. JAMES ADAMS, Grand Chaplain.

On motion of the Grand Secretary,

Voted, To dispense with the reading of the proceedings of the last Convocation, as the same were in print and in the hands of members.

Comp. LADD offered the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That all Companions, Royal Arch Masons in regular standing, be admitted to seats in this Grand Chapter as visitors.

The M. E. High Priest announced the following standing committees:

Committee on Credentials.—Comps. EDWARD PARKER, A. A. BALCH, JOHN A. HARRIS.

Committee on Chapters.—Comps. J. R. HOLBROOK, J. LIVINGSTON, H. A. SMALLEY.

Committee on Finance.—Comps. HIRAM CLARK, E. GUSTINE, W. M. LADD.

On motion of Comp. MARSHALL,

Resolved, That when this Grand Chapter shall call from labor it be to two o'clock this afternoon, and that two o'clock this afternoon be assigned for the election of Grand Officers.

The M. E. Grand High Priest then read the following

ADDRESS.

COMPANIONS :—I congratulate you upon the condition of that Order of Masonry which owes allegiance to, and acknowledges the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter. The past year has been one of peace and prosperity within our borders, and it becomes us to acknowledge with gratitude our dependence upon the Supreme Architect of the universe, whose all-protecting hand has brought us thus far on the rough and rugged path of life, and to offer anew those vows and oblations which distinguish us as Royal Arch Masons. While some of our companions have been called from labor among us to refreshment in another life, and others have sought homes in distant climes, we have been permitted to meet once more around our consecrated altar, to bow in adoration

to the great I AM, and take counsel together for the good of our well beloved order.

July 12th. I visited St. Andrews Chapter No. 1, at Lebanon, re-instituted it, and installed the officers. This Chapter has been dormant for many years past, but now promises well for the interests of the craft, the officers showing a praiseworthy determination to make it the model Chapter of the state. I was pleased to find the old records of the Chapter in a good state of preservation, and to look upon the names of those who bore the heat and burden of the day many long years ago, who have now been called to receive the wages due all true and faithful craftsmen.

December 6th I issued a dispensation to the Companions of Washington Chapter No. 3, empowering them to hold regular convocations and to confer the several degrees of Capitular Masonry, their charter having been destroyed by fire together with all their regalia and furniture, on the morning of November 30th. I would recommend that their charter be renewed, confirming to them all their ancient rights and privileges. I visited this Chapter May 22d and witnessed the work on the Royal Arch Degree, as conferred by M. E. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, P. G. H. P. Although suffering under many disadvantages from the want of a hall suitably fitted and arranged, the work was well and promptly done, all the officers present showing a proficiency and zeal greatly to be commended. I was happy to learn

that the records of the Chapter were not destroyed and that although it has received so severe a blow, its financial condition is still good.

January 9th I visited Peterboro' Chapter No. 12, for the purpose of installing the High Priest elect, our worthy Companion P. . G. . H. . P. . JONAS LIVINGSTON. This Chapter, although one of the youngest, has shown great energy and perseverance, and has already made good progress in the Royal Art. It numbers many active and intelligent Masons on its roll, and is in a very prosperous condition in all respects.

In January I received an invitation to visit Plymouth to organize Pemigewasset Chapter No. 13, the charter for which was voted at our last annual meeting, and instal the officers on the 10th. But as I had already consented to visit a Chapter in another part of the State on the 9th, it was impossible for me to be present, and I deputized M. . E. . HORACE CHASE, P. D. G. H. P., who reported to me as follows: "With the valuable aid of Companions HARRIS and CLEAVES, of Trinity Chapter, I consecrated Pemigewasset Chapter No. 13, in due and ancient form, and duly installed its officers. Our Plymouth Companions have met with many discouragements, but their courage holds out and they seem to be imbued with the true masonic spirit. They seem well united, and if patience and perseverance will effect it, they will soon have a good Chapter. They need encouragement and instruction and are eminently entitled

to the sympathy of the Grand Chapter, which I hope and trust they will receive."

June 7th I visited Belknap Chapter No. 8, and witnessed the work on the four degrees. Without discouraging any other Chapter, I may be permitted to say, the work done on that evening is seldom equalled in accuracy and finish. The Chapter is large and wealthy, and liberal in all its appointments. The officers and members take a just pride in its good name and success, and it must continue to hold its place in the very first rank of the Subordinate Chapters of this State.

Of Cheshire Chapter No. 4, of which I am a member, I can report very favorably, having attended all the convocations during the past year. The work is well done, and its officers and members are determined that it shall continue to deserve the high reputation of former years. The interest of its members is unabated; its financial condition good, and its future encouraging. It has been out of my power to visit the other Chapters in this jurisdiction, but I have no doubt that satisfactory and encouraging reports will be received from them.

In January I received a communication through the Secretary of Trinity Chapter, from Companion ALBERT L. LONG, of Constantinople, setting forth the state of masonry in that city, and asking for advice in regard to establishing a Chapter there under an American dispensation. I was greatly interested in this matter, and regretted that the regulations of the General Grand

Chapter would not allow me to grant a dispensation. I therefore contented myself with giving him the necessary instructions and wishing him God speed in his noble and glorious undertaking. I was surprised to learn from his letter that masonry is in such a flourishing condition in that place. He says "there are at present in this city, two English, one Irish, two German, one French, one Italian and one Greek Lodge in working order. An attempt has also been made to establish a chapter under the English constitutions. The wish has been expressed to see an American Lodge and an American Chapter established here." I also learn from his letter that some time since a charter was granted to some Companions residing in Smyrna, Asia, by the General Grand Chapter of the United States, to open and hold a Chapter in that city, which Chapter was duly organized and has done good work.

During the past year but one complaint has reached me of want of masonic courtesy on the part of any of the Subordinate Chapters in this jurisdiction. Upon investigating the circumstances, I found the Chapter acted in good faith, but without sufficient circumspection. Suitable explanations were made to the Grand High Priest of Massachusetts, who called my attention to this apparent want of comity on the part of one of our Chapters, and the matter was satisfactorily arranged.

The masonic year of our order commences at the annual convocation of the Grand Chapter, and it would

seem proper that the newly elected and installed officers should attend that convocation for the purpose of obtaining information upon such points as they may feel themselves deficient in. At present there is no uniform time appointed for the election of the officers of the several Subordinate Chapters, but the elections are held at such times as the convenience or caprice of those who constitute each Chapter may have decided, extending through nearly all the months of the year. I would advise that some action should be taken by this Grand Chapter, recommending the Subordinate Chapters to hold their annual meetings on or about the same time, and at such a time as would enable the newly elected officers to be regularly installed previous to the annual Convocation of this Grand Body.

I would also suggest that the Secretary of each Subordinate Chapter should be requested to deposit with the Grand Secretary a certified copy of the charter under which the Chapter works. By so doing, the charter, if lost by fire, could be replaced by a true copy of the original, which would be more highly valued in many cases than a new charter.

M. E. Companion JOHN H. STEELE, High Priest of Peterboro' Chapter, died July 3d, 1865, at the ripe old age of 76 years and six months. He was initiated March 13, A. D., 1816, and held most of the offices in the Lodge, having been chosen Master three times at intervals of several years, and was appointed the first High

Priest of Peterboro' Chapter. He was an active, intelligent man, taking great interest in the material prosperity of his town. He was called by his political friends to fill many offices of honor and trust in the town, county and state, having served as governor of New Hampshire two terms with credit and ability.

August 28th M.: E.: PHILEMON TOLLES, P. G. H. P. of this Grand Chapter died at his residence at Claremont, aged 63. Companion TOLLES was made a Mason in 1826, and in 1827 was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree. He held all the elective offices of Hiram Lodge No. 9, and of Webb Chapter No. 6. He also served this Grand Chapter in the several offices of Grand Scribe, Grand King, Deputy Grand High Priest and Grand High Priest, for the period of seven years. At the time of his death he was R. Ill, Grand Master of Columbian Council No. 2. He discharged the duties of all these offices with ability and honor to himself, and pleasure and profit to the craft. He fulfilled all the duties of a man and a citizen in an exemplary manner, and his mortal remains were followed to the grave by many who had received benefits at his hands, and had learned to look upon him as a friend and brother. Both these Companions were members of this Grand Chapter at the time of their decease, and I trust suitable action will be taken by this body in regard to that event.

Having served the term for which I was elected, to the best of my abilities, although conscious of many short

comings, I return the power delegated to me by this Grand Chapter, with heartfelt thanks for the honor conferred upon me in selecting me as the head of our beloved order in this State. I am especially grateful to those Companions of the Subordinate Chapters with whom I have been brought in contact in the discharge of my duties, for the uniform kindness and good will with which I have been greeted upon my official visits, and for the courtesy and generosity which I have met with at their hands, and trust that the many pleasant acquaintances thus begun, may ripen into friendship in full fruition hereafter.

The E. Dep. Grand High Priest then made his annual report.

To the M. E. Grand R. A. C. of New Hampshire :

Early in the year I received a communication from Companion WALKER of Washington Chapter, requesting a dispensation to confer the several degrees belonging to the Chapter within a less time than laid down in the Grand regulation; and judging from the merits of the case as set forth in the communication, and being satisfied that it was for the good of the order, I granted the dispensation.

At the request of the Most Ex. G. H. Priest, and by an invitation of the H. Priest of Meridian Sun Chapter No. 9, I had the honor the last of April to visit their

Chapter, on which occasion I had the pleasure of seeing them work the R. A. Degree. I was well pleased with the correct and dignified manner in which the several parts were rendered, and am most happy to say that peace, harmony and good feeling prevail among the Companions. The finances are in a very prosperous state, and at no time since their Chapter was re-organized has it been in so flourishing a condition as at the present. When about to leave the hotel, I found that some friend had been there before me and kindly settled all bills, for which kindness your humble servant has not returned thanks. I trust you will see to it.

Mt. Horeb R. A. Chapter I have visited many times during the year, although I have not been as constant during the latter portion of it. Since the first of January I have been doing business in Boston and have necessarily been absent from home most of the time. But under the direction of our able Companion JOHN D. PATTERSON and his associates in office, I feel well assured that Mt. Horeb R. A. Chapter still retains her reputation for promptness to conform with the regulation of the Grand Chapter, and also of the correctness of its labor. The finances are in a very prosperous condition.

June 9th I received a communication from Comp. D. R. MARSHALL, Ex. G., dated May 21st, requesting me to visit Trinity Chapter. The letter being detained so long by some irregularity of the mail, it was impossible to comply with the request. I regret very much the

delay, as I should have been pleased to have met the Companions of Trinity Chapter.

N. W. CUMNER, *D. H. P.*

Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK offered the following Resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter furnish Washington Chapter No. 3, with a new charter as near like the original which was destroyed by fire, as the Grand Secretary can make it.

On motion of Comp. MARSHALL,

Voted, That said charter be furnished without expense to Washington Chapter.

The Committee on Credentials reported the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Members and Visiting Companions in attendance and entitled to seats:

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comps. THOMAS E. HATCH, *M. E. G. H. P.*

“ N. W. CUMNER, *E. D. G. H. P.*

“ DANIEL R. MARSHALL, *E. G. K.*

“ LEWIS WOODMAN, *E. G. Scribe.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *E. G. T.*

“ HORACE CHASE, *E. G. Secretary.*

“ L. W. NICHOLS, *E. G. C. H.*

“ EDWARD GUSTINE, *E. G. P. S.*

“ JOHN A. HARRIS, *E. G. R. A. C.*

- “ JACOB D. MARCH, *G. M. of 3d V.*
- “ WM. D. KIMBALL, *G. M. of 2d V.*
- “ EDWARD PARKER, *G. M. of 1st V.*
- “ GEORGE L. REED, *Tyler.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

- Comps. JONAS LIVINGSTON,
- “ JOHN KNOWLTON,
 - “ JOHN R. HOLBROOK,
- } *M. E. P. G. H. Priests.*
- “ HORACE CHASE, *E. P. D. G. H. Priest.*

SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

ST. ANDREWS, No. 1.

- Comp. A. SMALLEY, *proxy for M. E. H. Priest.*

TRINITY, No. 2.

- Comp. T. J. SANBORN, *E. High Priest.*
- “ JOHN A. HARRIS, *E. King.*
- “ LUTHER W. NICHOLS, *E. Scribe.*

WASHINGTON, No. 3.

- Comps. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *M. E. High Priest.*
- “ WM. R. MARTIN, *E. King.*
- “ JOHN H. JACKSON, *proxy for Scribe.*

CHESHIRE, No. 4.

- Comps. JOHN H. ELLIOTT, *M. E. High Priest.*
- “ EDWARD GUSTINE, *E. King.*
- “ S. S. WILKINSON, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

WEBB, No. 6.

Comps. LYMAN J. BROOKS, *proxy for E. King.*

“ WM. M. LADD, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

BELKNAP, No. 8.

Comps. THOMAS SPURLIN, *M. E. High Priest.*

“ JOSEPH HARTFORD, *E. King.*

“ A. M. WINN, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

MERIDIAN SUN, No. 9.

Comp. EDWARD PARKER, *M. E. High Priest.*

MOUNT HOREB, No. 11.

Comps. JOHN D. PATTERSON, *M. E. H. Priest.*

“ A. A. BALCH, *E. King.*

“ GEO. H. TRUE, *E. Scribe.*

PETERBOROUGH, No. 12.

Comps. JONAS LIVINGSTON, *M. E. High Priest.*

“ M. L. MORRISON, *E. King.*

“ W. D. KIMBALL, *E. Scribe.*

PEMIGEWASSET, No. 13.

Comp. D. R. BURNHAM, *M. E. High Priest.*

“ HIRAM CLARK, *E. King.*

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Comps. JOSEPH W. HILDRETH, WM. H. WYMAN,
JOHN M. HAYES, AUGUSTUS G. HARRIS, CHAS. H.
STONE, CHAS. W. HARVEY, No. 2; DANIEL G. RAI,
No. 3; S. A. CARTER, ELLERY ALBEE, No. 4; J.

J. BARRETT, WM. CHILD, *No. 5*; SAML. M. WHEELER, O. O. BENNETT, *No. 8*; JACOB O. SMITH, *No. 9*; JOHN T. HOSLEY, CHAS. W. JOHNSON, SAML. F. MURRAY, JOHN E. MASON, J. A. CHAMBERLIN, JOHN G. MARTIN, A. H. BIXBY, *No. 11*; JOHN M. RAMSAY, JOHN WILDER, *No. 12*; JOHN J. BELL, *Me.*; SETH JOHNSON, *Vt.*; E. B. HUBBARD, *Mass.*

The Grand Chapter was called from labor till 2 o'clock, P. M.

AFTERNOON.

The Grand Chapter re-assembled at 2 o'clock, P. M., and was called to labor. Present, as in the morning.

The time assigned for the election of Grand Officers having arrived, the M. E. Grand High Priest appointed Comps. WM. M. LADD and S. S. WILKINSON a committee to collect, count and declare the state of votes, when on counting the ballots the following Companions were severally declared duly elected:

Comp. THOS. E. HATCH, Keene, *M. E. G. High Priest.*

“ N. W. CUMNER, Manchester, *E. D. G. H. Priest.*

“ DANIEL R. MARSHALL, Nashua, *E. G. King.*

“ LEWIS WOODMAN, Claremont, *E. G. Scribe.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *E. G. Treasurer.*

“ HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *E. G. Secretary.*

“ JAMES ADAMS, Candia, *E. G. Chaplain.*

“ JOHN A. HARRIS, Concord, *E. G. Capt. Host.*

The M. E. High Priest made the following appointments:

Comp. THOMAS SPURLIN, Dover, *E. G. P. Sojourner*.

“ J. D. MARCH, Nashua, *E. G. R. A. Capt.*

“ A. A. SMALLEY, Lebanon, *G. M. of 3d V.*

“ D. R. BURNHAM, Plymouth, *G. M. of 2d V.*

“ WM. R. MARTIN, Portsmouth, *G. M. of 1st V.*

“ GEORGE H. TRUE, Manchester, } *G. Stewards.*
 “ WM. D. KIMBALL, Peterborough, }

“ GEO. L. REED, Concord, *G. Tyler.*

SUBSTITUTE FOR REPORT ON CHAPTERS.

The report of the Bommittee on Chapters being accidentally lost or mislaid, the Grand Secretary supplies the loss of said report by the following abstract of Returns of Subordinate Chapters, showing the increase and condition of the seueral Chapters in jurisdiction:

SUBSTITUTE FOR REPORT ON CHAPTERS.

342

Chapter.	No.	Location.	Memb.	Exalt.	Dues.	High Priests.	Secretaries.	Time of Stated Meetings.
ST. ANDREWS.....	1	Lebanon,	29	10	\$20	ABRAM PUSHER,	ADONIRAM SMALLEY,	Tuesday, on or after F. M.
TRINITY	2	Concord,	146	16	32	THOS. J. SANBORN,	L. W. NICHOLS, P. T.	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
WASHINGTON.....	3	Portsmouth,.....	115	23	46	JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	OLIVER G. FERNALD,	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
CHESHIRE.....	4	Keene,	76	11	22	JOHN H. ELLIOT,	GEO. S. WOODWARD,	Monday on or after F. M.
FRANKLIN*	5	Lisbon,	81	13	26	W. H. CUMMINGS,	J. R. YOUNG,	Thursday after week of F. M.
WEBB	6	Claremont,	109	18	36	JOHN J. PRENTISS,	THOS. R. GOWDEY,	Third Monday of each month.
BELKNAP	8	Dover,	157	23	46	THOS. SPURLIN,	AMASA ROBERTS,	Friday nearest F. M.
MERIDIAN SUN	9	Nashua,.....	71	9	18	EDW'D PARKER,	JACOB D. MARCH,	Monday on or before F. M.
MOUNT HOEB	11	Manchester,.....	127	8	16	J. D. PATTERSON,	S. B. KIDDER,	2d Wednesday in each month.
PETERBOROUGH.....	12	Peterborough,	42	24	48	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	H. M. BREED,	Tuesday on or before F. M.
PEMIGEWASSET	13	Plymouth,.....	27	4	8	H. G. GEORGE.	J. G. MORRISON.	First Wednesday of each mo.
	11		980	159	318			

* Return made and Dues paid since Annual Convocation.

REPORT ON GRAND HIGH PRIEST'S ADDRESS.

The Committee to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest and the report of the E. Deputy Grand High Priest, having examined the same, beg leave to report the following Resolution:

1ST. *Resolved*, That a memorial page be set apart in the published proceedings of this convocation as a tribute to the memory of our deceased Companions, PHILEMON TOLLES, M. E. P. G. High Priest, and JOHN H. STEELE, E. High Priest of Peterborough Chapter, No. 13.

2D. *Resolved*, That each Subordinate Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter be requested to so far amend their By-Laws as to have their annual election of officers take place at the regular Convocation next preceeding the first day of May.

3D. *Resolved*, That the granting of dispensations to confer the several Chapter degrees is not in accordance with article 17, of the Grand Regulations, and should not be countenanced or allowed by this Grand Chapter.

4TH. *Resolved*, That the Secretaries of Subordinate Chapters be required to deposit with the Grand Secretary a certified copy of the Charter, or Warrant, under which they respectively work, and that all Charters, or Warrants, of Chapters hereafter granted shall be recorded by the Grand Secretary.

JAMES ADAMS,	} Committee.
J. D. PATTERSON,	
J. D. MARCH,	

Which report was accepted; and on taking the question of the adoption of the first resolution it was decided in the affirmative; so the first resolution was adopted.

On the question of the adoption of the second resolution, it was decided in the negative; so the second resolution was not adopted.

On considering the third resolution, on motion the same was indefinitely postponed.

On the question of the adoption of the fourth resolution, it was decided in the affirmative; so the fourth resolution was adopted.

FINANCE REPORT.

The Committee on finance have attended to their duty and find the Grand Treasurer chargeable as follows:

To balance in his hands as reported last	
year, - - - - -	\$556 17
To cash of Grand Secretary, 1865,	90 00
“ “ “ “ June 12, 1866,	292 00
To interest on balance last year, after	
paying bills, - - - - -	23 06
	<hr/>
	\$961 23
Credit for moneys paid out:	
By cash paid the Grand Secretary,	\$25 00
“ “ McFarland & Jenks,	4 50
“ “ “ C. F. Livingston,	
for printing, - - - - -	65 30
	<hr/>
	94 80
Balance in hands of Grand Treasurer,	<hr/>
	\$866 43

The following unpaid bills are in the hands of the Grand Treasurer, awaiting the action of the Grand Chapter, which the Committee recommend to be paid:

McFarland & Jenks' bill,	-	-	-	\$6 75	●
T. E. Hatch, G. High Priest,	-	-	-	24 50	
C. A. Robinson, G. Tyler,	-	-	-	2 00	
H. Chase, G. Secretary,	-	-	-	31 78	
John Knowlton, G. Treas'r, commission,				9 61	
				<hr/>	
				\$74 64	
Cash on hand this day,	-	-	-	\$791 79	

Which is respectfully submitted.

HIRAM CLARK,	}	Committee.
WM. M. LADD,		
EDWARD GUSTINE,		

Which report was accepted, and the bills recommended ordered to be paid.

On motion of Comp. N. W. CUMNER,

Voted, That the proceedings of this Grand Convocation be published, and that the Grand Secretary prepare a report on Foreign Correspondence, and be paid a reasonable compensation therefor, and that the same be published with the proceedings.

Companion EDWARD PARKER proposed an amendment of the Grand Regulation by adding to the 17th Article the following words: "Except in cases of emergency the

Grand High Priest and Deputy Grand High Priest may grant dispensations to Subordinate Chapters to receive, ballot and confer the several degrees at any meeting duly notified for that purpose."

Which was put on file and ordered to be continued till the next annual Convocation.

The G. H. Priest, after having been installed by Comp. JOHN R. HOLBROOK, M. E. P. G. High Priest, installed the other Grand Officers in due form.

There being no farther business the Grand Chapter was closed in ample form with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

A true record. Attest:

HORACE CHASE,

Grand Secretary.

Address of the M. E. Grand High Priest:

THOMAS E. HATCH, Esq.,

Keene, N. H.

Address of the E. Grand Secretary:

HON. HORACE CHASE,

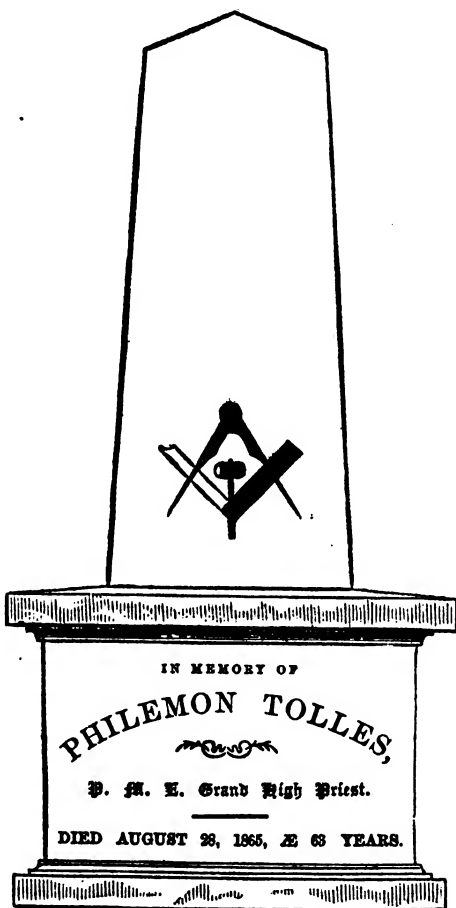
Hopkinton, N. H.



IN MEMORY OF
JOHN H. STEELE,

P. M. P. of Peterborough Chapter,
AND EX-GOV. OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

DIED JULY 3, 1865, *A* 76 YEARS.



ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

June, A. D., 1866.

351

Chapter.	No.	Location.	Memb.	Krat.	Feet.	High Priests.	Secretaries.	Time of Stated Meetings.
ST. ANDREWS.....	1	Lebanon,	29	10	\$20	ABRAHAM PUSHER,	ADONIRAM SMALLEY,	Tuesday, on or after F. M.
TRINITY	2	Concord,	146	16	32	THOS. J. SANBORN,	L. W. NICHOLS, P. T.	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
WASHINGTON.....	3	Portsmouth,.....	115	23	46	JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	OLIVER G. FERNALD,	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
CHESHIRE.....	4	Keene,	76	11	22	JOHN H. ELLIOT,	GEO. S. WOODWARD,	Monday on or after F. M.
FRANKLIN*	5	Lisbon,	81	13	26	W. H. CUMMINGS,	J. R. YOUNG,	Thursday after week of F. M.
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BELKNAP	8	Dover,	157	23	46	THOS. SPURLIN,	AMASA ROBERTS,	Friday nearest F. M
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PETERBOROUGH.....	12	Peterborough,	42	24	48	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	H. M. BREED,	Tuesday on or before F. M.
PEMIGEWASSET	13	Plymouth,.....	27	4	8	H. G. GEORGE.	J. G. MORRISON.	First Wednesday of each mo.
	11		980	159	318			

* Return made and Dues paid since Annual Convocation.

A P P E N D I X.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The labor of preparing a Report on Foreign Correspondence has again devolved on the Grand Secretary, who regrets that he has neither time, strength, or ability to make a report either satisfactory to himself or acceptable to his readers, but such time and talents as he can command, shall be cheerfully devoted to the service of his Grand Chapter, hoping that his age, poor health and infirmity of body, will excuse him should he fail to meet the expectation of those who imposed this duty upon him.

As his report cannot receive the sanction of the Grand Chapter before its publication, he will endeavor to be sparing in expressing his own views, advancing his own theory, or criticising and commenting to any great length on the proceedings of other Grand Chapters, but will

endeavor "to present things truly as they shall come to his knowledge." He would also have it borne in mind that for any opinion he may express, or comment make, he alone is responsible, and not his Grand Chapter, farther than for the mistake in assigning this labor to incompetent hands.

During the year past he has received the proceedings of the following Grand Chapters, to wit: Alabama, California, Canada, Florida, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, for 1865; North Carolina for 1863, 1864 and 1865; Rhode Island for 1865; Tennessee for 1861 and 1865; Vermont and Virginia for 1865. These will receive notice in their order.

ALABAMA.

The thirty-ninth Annual Convocation was held at Montgomery, Dec. 5, 1865; thirty-three Subordinate Chapters represented. The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, M. E. Grand High Priest, JAMES B. HARRISON, presiding.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest exhibits evidence of a clear head, strong intellect and a warm and affectionate heart, from which address we beg to be excused for making liberal extracts.

After feelingly alluding to the death of many companions, he gives a glowing picture (and no doubt a truthful one) of the devastation of their country, destruction of

property, want and sufferings of many of their brethren and Companions returned from the war, and the destitute condition of widows and orphans to be cared for, fed, clothed and educated, as follows :

“ Previous to our last Convocation the southern portion of our jurisdiction had not felt or experienced the horrors of war in all its bearings ; since which we too have been made its victims. Wherever the army penetrated the country was devastated, atrocities of every kind were committed, many were reduced to want, and now the crumbling walls, the isolated chimneys of once happy dwellings, are but monumental evidences of how well the work of destruction was executed ; again, after the cessation of hostilities, crops that had been but just planted were abandoned, some in part, others altogether ; some were left only for a time through want of labor, a large portion of those that were worked was not properly cultivated, and the yield was therefore very short. I speak not of these things politically but simply with a view to impress your minds with the present condition of our people, and the want and distress that must inevitably follow. Many of our companions and brethren have returned home after years of suffering in the army or in prisons. They return with impaired health and broken constitutions, many of them maimed and crippled for life, utterly incapable of physical labor. They return to find the little property upon which they depended for a support for their families and for themselves, all gone — all destroyed ; and such are now dependent upon the charity of friends. Again, an equally distressing picture is presented by the widows and orphans of our gallant soldiery ; they have been made so by the chances of war, and are now left destitute and without even a protector, by its cruel and destructive hand. Among these, doubtless, will be found many who are the widows and orphans of companions and brothers beloved. These are emphatically widowhood and orphanage, who are to find in every true-hearted Mason a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. In view of these facts and the situation of our people, if ever there was a time when Masons should practice the beautiful tenets of our order as taught in our Lodges and Chapters, that time is now. Let us begin the work immediately. Let us take counsel together and see if some means cannot be devised by which timely assistance can be rendered, and thus a large amount of privation and suffering be, if not entirely relieved, so ameliorated as to avoid a want of the necessities of bare subsistence. By a firm, persistent and united effort on our part, we can go still farther, and comfortably feed, clothe and educate many of these wards of masonry, to whom we stand in the relation of guardians.”

He alludes to the vices of profanity and intemperance as too prevalent among Masons, and gives the following excellent advice:

"The standard of Royal Arch Masonry is, I fear, not what it should be in some portions of our jurisdiction. Excuse me for speaking plainly; when I hear a man, who is recognized as a Royal Arch Mason, pronouncing the sacred name of Deity in a blasphemous manner, when I hear him giving utterance to horrid and profane oaths, when I see him reeling and staggering under the influence of intoxicating drinks, I am necessarily forced to the conclusion that the standard of masonry in the Chapter to which he belongs is very low. And now in all candor let me say to you, presiding officers of Chapters, do your duty; let your imagination go back to your Chapter, take a survey of your membership, and if you know of any that are guilty of any of the offenses enumerated, or any other unmasonic conduct in these demoralizing times, do your duty. When you return home institute the proper proceedings, no matter how influential he may be, no matter how high his social position, no matter how *bright* he may be considered, cut him off, purge your Chapter, remove the incabus, thereby doing and fulfilling your whole duty to the whole body of masonry; for I assure you that such will only mar and soil the work, and cannot assist in the noble and glorious undertaking of preparing their fellow man for a reception into the Holy of Holies."

The Report on Foreign Correspondence is a candid, judicious and well-written document reviewing the proceedings of seven Grand Chapters only, by their Grand Secretary, Comp. DANIEL SAYRE.

Comp. SAYRE in his report alludes to hostile and unfriendly feelings existing among Masons in some sections of our country, and writes as follows:

"Your committee regret to perceive, that there is still a spice of bitterness prevailing in the hearts of some of our Northern companions, and tincturing their actions and expressions. This fact is the more observable in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Indiana. The Grand Chapter met on the 17th day of May last. At that time, the Confederacy had virtually ceased to exist. Petersburg had been evacuated, Richmond up to the victors, and General Lee had surrendered. Under these

circumstances, it might have been thought that a better feeling would have taken hold of the hearts of our Northern companions; that kindness would have rooted out all disposition to hate; and that the olive-branch would have been extended for our acceptance, and not that the waters of Marah would have been offered to our lips. But instead of exhibiting this friendly and Masonic spirit towards us of the South, the Grand High Priest, Solomon P. Bayless, although writing from a bed of sickness, which he was not able to leave to attend the convocation of the Grand Chapter, does not hesitate to declare, in speaking of the murder of President Lincoln, that he fell by the hand of an assassin, instigated by the same spirit that inaugurated and carried on the rebellion against the government." And the committee, to which was confided the duty of reporting suitable resolutions in regard to the same matter, speaks of his homicide as "one of the natural and legitimate results of this ill-conceived and unnatural rebellion." Now, we do not propose to inaugurate any discussion upon the subject of the late unhappy war; we desire, on the other hand, that it should be forgotten as soon as possible; that all traces of it should be wiped out; and that a spirit of masonic and friendly comity should be cultivated. But when the people of the South are put upon the same footing, are said to be imbued with the same spirit, and actuated by the same motives, with assassins and cut-throats, we are compelled to enter our indignant protest. We are neither. We fought honorably, and fairly, and we may be permitted to say, bravely, for the achievement of certain results. We have been disappointed in our calculations, and we submit to our fate with the spirit of men. The death of President Lincoln could neither help the cause of the South, nor retard the progress of the North, consequently upon his decease, as a base, we have erected no superstructure, least of all had we contemplated it as occurring in the manner in which it took place. He died not by the hand, or at the instigation, (so far as we know,) of any citizen of the late Confederacy. For his death we are not responsible. Our skirts are clear. Our hands are clean. There is no blood upon them, and therefore we need not implore, in the language of the great poet, "out damned spot."

We submit to the candid masonic reader to say which is actuated by the pure and true spirit of masonry, with the spirit of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, Comp. BAYLESS or Comp. SAYRE. We do not hesitate to say that if Comp. BAYLESS felt and believed what he wrote.

he would have stood higher in the estimation of all candid, prudent and discreet Masons, if he had called into exercise that cardinal virtue, Prudence, and kept his thoughts and belief to himself. Our Southern brethren, we admit, have erred; the object for which they contended is settled against them; they submit with a good grace and ask to be forgiven; are ready to cultivate a spirit of masonic and friendly comity. Shall we, then, of the North, turn round and taunt them, and charge them with high crimes of which we have no evidence they are guilty? God forbid! Let us rather, according to our masonic teaching, "Knowing that man, in his most improved state, is subject to frailty and error, be ever ready to cover the faults and imperfections of our brethren with the broad mantle of Charity and Brotherly Love."

The M. E. Grand High Priest and E. Grand Secretary were both reëlected.

CALIFORNIA.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at San Francisco, October 16, 1865, M. E. Grand High Priest, ISAAC DAVIS, presiding.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is brief, and confined principally to his jurisdiction. He calls the attention of his Grand Chapter to a resolution relative to conferring the P. Master's degree adopted by the Gen-

eral Grand Chapter in 1856 and requests that such action be taken as will tend to its observance.

The address was referred to a committee who subsequently reported the following resolution upon that subject:

“Resolved, That the Chapters in this jurisdiction, be and they are hereby required to conform, in the conferring of the Past Master’s degree, to the following resolution, adopted by the General Grand Chapter, in 1856:

Resolved, That the General Grand Chapter do recommend to the Grand Chapters and the subordinate Chapters under this jurisdiction, to abridge the ceremonies now conferred in the Past Master’s degree within the narrowest constitutional limits, only retaining the inducting of the candidate into the Oriental Chair, and the communicating of the means of recognition.”

Which report was concurred in, and the resolution accompanying it was adopted.

We have deemed this matter of sufficient importance to claim the attention of this Grand Chapter, and hope it will take such measures as shall enforce a due observance of, and conformity to, the aforesaid recommendation of the General Grand Chapter.

We notice in the proceedings that a complaint was presented against a Subordinate Chapter for the adoption of certain resolutions of a political character, which was referred to a special committee, who made the following most excellent masonic report, to which is appended a resolution, which report was concurred in and the resolution adopted:

“Your committee to whom was referred a communication from Comp. JAMES M. McDONALD, a member of Sacramento Chapter, No. 3, com-

plaining against the action of that Chapter in adopting certain resolutions on the second day of May last, have carefully examined the copy of the resolutions submitted, and report as follows :—

Congregations of Masons, as such, whether in Lodges, Chapters, or other bodies of the Craft, are intended only for masonic purposes—for furthering the great ends of Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth—for disseminating the heaven-born ideas of Faith, Hope, and Charity—for doing actual, practical good to our fellow-men. All that is foreign to the philanthropic and benevolent principles which are the foundation of our order, for the exemplification of which, both in precept and in practice, it alone exists—all that is not necessary to give aid and strength to the beneficent mission for which our institution is appointed, is zealously to be excluded from within our portals. With those many things which agitate and vex the minds of men when in the outer world, in our capacity of Masons, we have nought to do; and among the earliest lessons we have been taught, it has ever been strongly impressed upon us that religious or political subjects find no proper place for introduction or discussion in temples sacred to the charitable and harmony-seeking purposes of Freemasonry. Our only religion is to believe in God and strictly to obey the moral law—our only politics, to be peaceable subjects to the civil powers, and obedient to the laws of the land in which we live. As citizens, we have ample liberty, at other times and places, to discuss the merits of our several creeds, and to present our views upon matters of political or national importance; but it is as unnecessary and unwise, as it is masonically unlawful, to allow either to find vent in a Lodge or Chapter.

This being the well-known law of masonry, it is with sorrow that your committee have seen the resolutions under consideration. They ought not to have been offered in the Chapter—they ought not to have been entertained by its presiding officer—they certainly ought not to have been adopted. Your committee are aware, however, that at the time of their presentation, great excitement existed in consequence of the terrible crime which prompted them; and, while the action of the Chapter must be reprehended, that others may not commit a similar offense, they feel disposed only to recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Sacramento Chapter, No. 3, be directed to efface from its records the resolutions above alluded to, together with all other matters of record which may be connected therewith."

A report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by
E. Comp. LAWRENCE C. OWEN, Grand Secretary, in

which he briefly reviews the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters, ours for 1863 and 1864 included.

In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Vermont he notices, among the General Regulations appended to the proceedings, one requiring the officers of Chapters working under dispensation to be duly installed and remarks, "We know of no other Grand Chapter that requires or permits the installation of officers of Chapters under dispensation, and believe the regulation to be contrary to the general usage in other jurisdictions." We agree with Comp. OWEN, and believe the regulation not only contrary to general usage, but decidedly wrong and improper.

Comp. JOHN KIRKPATRICK was elected M. E. Grand High Priest and Comp. LAWRENCE C. OWEN was reelected E. Grand Secretary. The Grand Chapter of California has within its jurisdiction thirty-four Subordinates. They return 1315 R. A. M. which, we take it, are members, and 391 Exaltations.

CANADA.

The eighth Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Prescott, August 8th, 1865, the M. E. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z. presiding. Seventeen Chapters were represented. Twenty-two made returns showing 813 members.

The address of the Grand Z. is brief and mostly con-

fined to their own local matters. He invites the consideration of the Grand Chapter to two subjects of congratulation. The first is the birth of a second son to the Prince and Princess of Wales, affording additional happiness to their Queen, and beloved subjects, of whom they pride themselves in forming a portion, and expresses a confidence that with him they will heartily unite in the National Prayer, "God save the Queen." On the second subject he speaks in friendly and truly masonic terms as follows :

"My second subject of congratulation is the restoration of peace in the United States, and a return to friendly relations, so long interrupted, between *all* our brethren and companions, citizens of that powerful and important Republic. In all the proceedings I have had the pleasure of studying, there is a general expression of satisfaction amongst Freemasons at the changed condition of affairs, and let us hope now, that the demon of discord and civil war, the worst of scourges, will be banished, and that men will look their fellowmen in the face as they should do, without wishing to take from each other, what they never did or could give, *life and light.*"

In the report of the special committee to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Z., we find the following friendly statement :

"Your committee rejoice likewise with M. E. Z. at the cessation of the sad and unnatural warfare that has been desolating happy homes, and entailing miseries and wretchedness upon their inmates for several years past."

Royal Arch jurisdiction in Canada is divided into Districts, over each of which is appointed a Grand Superintendent, answering to our District Dep. Grand Masters, whose able reports generally show a faithful discharge of

duty in those officers, and a harmonious, healthy and prosperous condition of capitular masonry through the extent of that jurisdiction.

The report on Foreign Correspondence by Comp. JAMES SEYMOUR, submitted after the close of the Grand Convocation, is an able, candid and impartial review of the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chapters, ours for 1864 included, and receiving commendable notice.

We would call the attention of Comp. SEYMOUR to a trifling mistake in his report. He credits the receipt of the proceedings of our Grand Chapter for 1864, and says there was no report on Foreign Correspondence. The fact is that the proceedings of our Grand Chapter for 1863 and 1864 were printed in one pamphlet and in 1863 there was no report, but in 1864 there was what purports to be a report on Foreign Correspondence prepared by the Grand Secretary. Whether of sufficient importance to correct the mistake we leave to him to say.

Comp. SEYMOUR, in his introduction, alluding to the recent political troubles through which our country has passed, indulges in the following beautiful masonic sentiment:

“ The fiery ordeal through which our companions in the neighboring States have been called to pass, has indeed been a trying one ; and as they received our heartfelt sympathy in their season of affliction, so now we extend to them our sincere congratulations on the happy return of peace. War's devastations having ceased, companions North and South, as members of the same mystic family, can once more exchange their fraternal greetings, and mingle with each other as in the past, their mutual feelings of friendly solicitude and good will. Happily throughout the

unnatural struggle, masonry exercised a sacred power and a benign influence that perhaps its most ardent supporters could scarcely have anticipated, in view of the merciless rancor too often shown. That influence will now tend in a great degree to bind those cherished principles still closer to their hearts, and give them greater confidence in the stability and truth of its venerated and immutable teachings."

M. E. Comp. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z. and R. E. Comp. THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, Grand Scribe E. were both reelected.

FLORIDA.

The Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter of Florida was opened at Tallahassee, Jan. 9th, 1865, and continued in session three days, M.: E.: GEORGE F. BALTZELL, presiding. Eight subordinates were reported as having made returns. There was no address of the Grand High Priest or report on Foreign Correspondence. We discover nothing out of the ordinary routine of business except a letter from the H. P. of Tampa Chapter to the Grand Secretary stating the loss of their jewels, furniture, charter, books, &c., plundered by the United States troops during their raid on Tampa, and asking for a duplicate or renewal of their charter.

The whole proceedings of the three days' session are embraced in nine pages of large, open print. Comp. DAVID JONES was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and E.: HUGH A. CORLEY was reelected Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Marshalltown, June 3-5, 1865, M.: E.: L. F. SWAF-

FORD, Grand High Priest, presiding. Nineteen Chapters were reported as being represented; whole number of Chapters in the jurisdiction 25. Returns show 114 Exaltations, 782 Members and \$532.00 dues.

The address of the Grand High Priest is mostly confined to his official acts. He reports that he has granted dispensations to confer the degrees on six candidates out of time.

He decides that travelling or army Chapters working under dispensation, were irregular, their work irregular, and those exalted therein could not visit or become members of any Chapter under that jurisdiction until formally healed, which decision was confirmed by the Grand Chapter in the adopting the report of a committee to whom his address was referred.

We admit that Grand Lodges and Grand Chapters committed a great error in granting dispensations for army Lodges and army Chapters, but we cannot agree with the Grand High Priest of Iowa that those having received the degrees in such Lodges and Chapters are to be treated as clandestine Masons. Such received the degrees in good faith, the Lodges and Chapters conferring those degrees acted in good faith, having legal authority for so doing, and we see no other just course than to treat such as non-affiliated, and receive them as visitors or members as they would other non-affiliated Masons, when applying as visiting brethren or for membership. One strong argument against army Lodges and army Chapters is that they encroach upon and violate other jurisdictions.

Complaints by Lodges and Chapters, Grand and Subordinate, for encroachments of jurisdiction, are of common occurrence, but we never yet heard it asserted or even intimated that the recipients of masonic honors under an encroachment of jurisdiction were clandestine or needed healing before they could be admitted into full fellowship, although the Lodges and Chapters thus violating other jurisdiction deserve severe censure and are often obliged to make restitution.

The report on Foreign Correspondence of E. Comp. W. B. LANGRIDGE, Grand Secretary, reviews the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chapters, ours included. In his review of the proceedings of this Grand Chapter he indulges a *little* in sarcasm and *more* in severity. In referring to the subject of granting dispensations to confer degrees out of time, he says:

"The companions of New Hampshire appeared to be enamored of dispensations, judging from the action of the Grand Chapter. A few years since a rule was passed forbidding dispensations to receive petitions and confer degrees at the same meeting. In 1863, that was rescinded; in 1864, Companion HORACE CHASE offered a resolution to restore it, which was voted down; so it is to be reasonably supposed that hereafter in New Hampshire, as elsewhere, the two disagreeable duties of packing one's linen and taking the masonic degrees which may be useful on the journey, will be put off till the last moment. So far as those coming west is concerned, we do not know that it makes much difference — as men "put through" so hurriedly are seldom able to "use" their acquisitions, and in all but the mere "work" we have to "make them over," and they are about "as good as new," and we are not responsible for their character either as men or Masons. Moreover, we have very frequently remarked that a man "double quickened through" under a dispensation, as it is termed out west, seldom cares enough for the order afterwards to pay any attention to it, and soon, like green lumber, shrinks until he "drops out," and is heard of no more."

Now our opinion upon the power to grant dispensations to confer the Chapter degrees out of the usual course remains unchanged from what it was in 1864, when it was overruled by the Grand Chapter. Our objections as then expressed are first that no actual emergent cases can seldom arise in Chapters that frequently appear in Blue Lodges. Second, that there is seldom the same necessity for granting such dispensations for Chapter work there often is for Lodge work—that the Chapter degrees add nothing to the protection and security of life and property when among strangers, in imminent distress and danger that a M. M. does not possess—and third, that the authority is liable to be exercised injudiciously. But however obnoxious our Grand Chapter may be to the severe criticism and sarcastic remarks of Comp. LANGRIDGE, we think they come from him with an ill grace, when the Grand High Priest of his Grand Chapter has granted more dispensations in one year than all the Grand High Priests of New Hampshire have granted since clothed with that authority, and we would remind our good companion of the danger of those living in glass houses of throwing stones; and with the most friendly feelings would advise him to pull the beam from his own eye that he may see clearly to pluck the mote from his brother's eye.

Comp. JOHN H. BROWN, of Cedar Falls, was chosen M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. W. B. LANGRIDGE, of Muscatine, was reelected Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

The Annual Convocation of this Grand Chapter was opened at Louisville, Oct. 16, 1865, by Comp. WILLIAM E. ROBINSON, M. E. Grand High Priest. Forty-seven Chartered Chapters and three Under Dispensation were represented, fifty-two made returns. Number of members 2053; number of Exaltations 543. The M. E. Grand High Priest in his annual address gives utterance to the following sensible, patriotic and truly masonic sentiment:

"Since our last Convocation the terrible struggle through which our country has been passing has been brought to a close, and with the return of peace new responsibilities devolve upon us as citizens, but more especially as Royal Arch Masons. As such it is our duty, with "purity of heart and rectitude of conduct," to use every means to reconcile our brethren and companions. There is an effort now being made in the masonic world to restore the fraternal regard which formerly existed between the various portions of our country, and already has an address been made through the public prints by the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania.

I hope that this Grand Chapter will also take steps to aid in the great work of reconciliation. We should extend the hand of "fraternal love and affection" to all who desire to discharge their masonic duties, without any other inquiry than, are they "worthy and well qualified?" Then will we have peace and harmony throughout our borders."

The Grand High Priest reports having granted to several Chapters dispensations to confer degrees out of time in cases of emergency. We forbear making further comments on that subject, and turn him and his Grand Chapter, and all others who have sinned in like manner, over to the tender mercy of Comp. LANGRIDGE, to be dealt with as to law and justice shall appertain.

The report on Foreign Correspondence by Comp. P. H. JEFFRIES is a brief but able review of the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chapters, our own for 1864 included; from which he takes liberal extracts from the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest and report of E. Grand King.

Comp. HARRY HUDSON, of Louisville, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. PHILIP SWIGERT, of Frankfort, was reelected E. Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

Annual Convocation held at Portland, May 1, 1865. Within the jurisdiction seventeen Chapters, all represented.

The address of Comp. A. J. FULLER, M. E. Grand High Priest, is mostly confined to matters within that jurisdiction. On the subject of granting dispensations, he says:

"I have had occasion to grant but few dispensations for conferring degrees out of the usual course, during the past year. I presume the fee for dispensation, fixed by the Grand Chapter at its last session, has lessened the demand in that direction."

We congratulate Comp. FULLER in being able to escape with a light flagellation from Comp. LANGRIDGE. Not so with his Grand Chapter, which, in common with the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, "appears to be enamored of dispensations."

He speaks of the present condition and future prospects of the Royal Craft in the following encouraging terms :

"There are now seventeen Chapters in this State working under charters, and two under dispensation. You will perceive that R. A. Masonry in Maine is rapidly increasing, and is entitled to your fostering care. I have endeavored to impress on all the Chapters the necessity of their candidates making a suitable proficiency in the preceding degrees, before they are advanced to another ; thus you can have well informed Masons, but in no other way can this object be attained. R. A. Masonry in Maine is in a very flourishing condition, the utmost harmony prevails, so far as I know, and if the outer courts of the tabernacle are strictly guarded, I see no good reason why it should not remain so."

The report on Foreign Correspondence submitted by the committee of which Comp. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND was chairman, is an able, clear, straightforward and business-like document, candidly and impartially discussing sundry questions which have been mooted in different jurisdictions. The first question discussed is that of granting dispensations for military Lodges and Chapters ; but as this question has now become a matter of history, the occasion for granting such dispensations having ceased, and, as we hope, forever, we deem a farther discussion of it but time and labor lost, and dismiss the subject by simply remarking that while we find that several Grand Lodges have committed the error of granting dispensations for military Lodges, we find but one Grand Chapter, that of Illinois, guilty of a like error.

The next question discussed by the committee is the propriety and constitutionality of providing for a Deputy

Grand High Priest, his powers and duties, which was raised in the Grand Chapter of Iowa, when their Deputy Grand High Priest declined assuming any authority in the absence of the Grand High Priest.

After quoting largely from the proceedings of several Grand Chapters, whose attention has been given to the subject, the arguments pro and con, the committee come to the following just conclusion :

“If a Grand Chapter, for reasons of convenience in administering its affairs, may vest the power of the Grand Council in its individual members, or in its High Priest, it may establish the office of Deputy, and confer powers upon him. It may do both, because it is a *constitutional* body, and *may* and *must* provide in its constitution both what officers it will have, and what shall be the rights, powers and duties of each.”

The most important question discussed by the committee and the one in which we are more immediately concerned, is that of the General Grand Chapter and the right of Grand Chapters to sever their connection and withdraw their allegiance. In their introduction of this subject the committee wisely remark as follows :

“We say in the outset, that we intend to say nothing upon the question of the necessity or the desirableness of having such a body. The question as to the rights and duties of Grand Chapters and all Royal Arch Masons in the existing state of things, is forced upon our attention by the action of some Grand Chapters, and the threatened action of others.”

We would be glad to transfer the whole report of the committee, their extracts from the action and reports of other Grand Chapters and their comments thereon, but the limits of this will not allow. We must therefore

content ourselves with the closing paragraph of the Maine committee :

"Of course it is not for us to advise what action shall there be taken. But we desire to suggest for the consideration of our own representatives, that either the General Grand Chapter should dissolve, or it should enforce its authority. It is perfectly competent for it to declare those Grand Chapters which *say* they have "seceded" from it, clandestine and irregular, and forbid intercourse between them and those which maintain their allegiance and perform their obligations. It may go further, and establish Chapters under its own jurisdiction in those States. This is an extreme remedy, and should be resorted to only when all others have failed. We learn that the Sir Knights of Vermont undertook to follow the example of the Companions, but that a prompt application of this remedy brought them to their senses, and they very commendably acknowledged their error and retraced their steps. We ardently hope that both Iowa and Vermont will reconsider their action, and, if they wish for the dissolution of the General Grand Chapter, seek it in a legitimate mode."

But as the question of the right to secede and the consequences following the exercise of that right, are as important to our Grand Chapter as to any other under the jurisdiction of the General Grand Chapter, we hazard an expression of our own views by a familiar illustration. We start with the position, and we challenge contradiction, that the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire stands in the same relation to the General Grand Chapter that the Subordinate Chapters in New Hampshire do to their parent head.

Now for our illustration: In 1818 delegates from St. Andrew's, Trinity and Washington Chapters met in Convention, resolved that it was expedient to form a Grand

Chapter and appointed a Committee to obtain the consent of the General Grand High Priest, or such other officer of the General Grand Chapter as was authorized to give consent, appointed a committee to prepare regulations for the government of the Grand Chapter, and adjourned to June 1819.

Having obtained a Dispensation from THOMAS SMITH WEBB, then Deputy General Grand High Priest of the General Grand Chapter, the delegates from the same Chapters and Cheshire Chapter, met in Convention on the 10th day of June 1819, adopted Grand Regulations, elected and installed Grand Officers, by which the Grand Chapters became a regularly constituted body, and whether the Grand Chapter was a creature of those Chapters or they the creatures of the Grand Chapter is perfectly immaterial, for when a Grand Chapter was duly and regularly formed with their consent and assistance, they became constituent parts of it as completely as any Chapter since chartered and stand in the same relation to it. Now will any one have the presumption to contend that any Subordinate Chapter in New Hampshire can withdraw from the Grand Chapter without its consent, renounce all allegiance to it, declare itself independent of all restraint, and encroach at will upon other jurisdiction? The idea is preposterous; yet they have the same right so to do as Grand Chapters have to withdraw their allegiance to, and declare their independence of, the General Grand Chapter. Once admit the right and all the

masonic constitutions, grand and subordinate, ever written would not be worth the paper upon which they are written.

We confess that we were never very zealous advocates of the General Grand Chapter, nor are we able to see any essential benefit to capitular masonry that has resulted from its organization, or that possibly can result from its continuance.

The position we assume is that no State Grand Chapter organized under a Warrant or Charter from the General Grand Chapter, or having surrendered allegiance to it, can withdraw that allegiance, and declare itself independent of the General Grand Chapter, any more than a subordinate Chapter, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of New Hampshire, can withdraw from that body, declare itself independent, and deny to it all allegiance.

These are our views, honestly entertained and frankly expressed.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. ANDREW J. FULLER, and Grand Secretary, Comp. IRA BERRY, were both re-elected.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Annual Convocation in Washington City, Nov. 13th, 1865; 8 Chapters represented. Eleven Chapters, including two under dispensation, made returns, showing

717 members, 254 Exaltations. One Chapter was neither represented nor made returns.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. J. L. YEATES, is brief, and mostly confined to matters exclusively belonging to that jurisdiction. We notice one decision made by him on a question that may become important in any jurisdiction.

His decision was that a member of a Chapter, having lost his rights and privileges therein by an expulsion by the Grand Lodge, would by a revocation of the sentence by the Grand Lodge, be restored to his rights in the Chapter, without a vote of his Companions.

We were inclined to the opinion that his decision was correct, and are so still, notwithstanding the report of a Committee to whom his address was referred, who say:

"There seems to your committee to be two classes of cases, and this decision applied to one is beyond all question correct. A companion expelled by a Blue Lodge is of course deprived of his rights in the Chapter without a vote; should the Lodge restore him, he is without a vote restored also in the Chapter. But should he appeal to the Grand Lodge after being expelled by a subordinate, and that body reverse the decision and restore him to the privileges of Masonry, surely such restoration cannot, in the judgment of your committee, restore him to the Chapter without a vote."

Now really, our intellect is too obtuse to see any difference in the two cases. Whether expelled by his Lodge or by the Grand Lodge, by the operation of masonic law, the expelled member is deprived of his rights as a Chapter Mason without action of his Chapter, and when restored either by his Lodge or by the Grand Lodge on

appeal, is perfectly immaterial in our view, and being deprived of his rights in the Chapter without any action of his Chapter, why should he not be restored to his rights as a Chapter, Mason without the action of his Chapter, when the body expelling him reverses the sentence. It really looks to us like making a distinction without a difference.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, by a Committee of which Comp. E. L. STEVENS is chairman, is an able, candid and impartial review of the proceedings of ten Grand Chapters, ours included in the number.

The committee introduced their report with the following beautiful illustration of the principles of the order upon the hearts and affections of its votaries, and their mission of masonic Charity and Brotherly Love. They say :

“ In taking a retrospective view of the terrible scenes of bitter strife and carnage through which our nation has passed, we can with pride and pleasure point to what our order has accomplished — its benign influence upon those arrayed against each other — its missions of mercy on thousands of battle-fields, in camps, in hospitals, in prisons, towards the dying and the dead — everywhere its voice of mercy and kindness has been heard, and its charities distributed with a liberal hand. In allaying the animosities of the heart, in uniting those who were enemies and estranged from each other, it has accomplished what no other organization or institution has ever been able to do. And now, as the dark clouds of war have rolled away, and the dawn of a more glorious day is ushered in, it is found in the front rank of the foremost division of all other benevolent societies and agencies, in its heaven-descended mission of charity — in uniting hearts hitherto severed by the cruelties of war — in imparting joy and consolation to homes made desolate — in feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and binding up the wounds of the afflicted.

We have the most cheering tidings from all portions of the country ; brethren and companions from the North and from the South are again

gathering around one common altar and renewing their fraternal vows towards each other, and in that spirit of charity and brotherly kindness, so characteristic of the order, willing to forget and bury the animosities of the past, and seek aid and strength from above, to labor harmoniously in the future for the advancement and welfare of our noble craft. While the same happy results are not realized in ecclesiastical bodies, the outside world may well look in wonder and ask, what mysterious power it is that has such a happy influence upon the hearts and affections of these men? Could not the iron hand of pride and of war sunder the ties and break the knot of love and friendship that united them in strong fraternal bonds, as it has in religious bodies and other societies?"

The committee extract liberally from our report on Foreign Correspondence for the year 1863, and heartily endorse our remarks upon the radical notions of the Grand High Priest of New Jersey to abolish the Chapter degrees. Comp. JAMES G. SMITH, Washington, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. J. MORRIS SMITH, Washington, Grand Secretary, reëlected.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Annual Convocation. Oct. 10, 1865, on adjournment from Sept. 12, 1865, M. E. SOLON THORNTON, Grand High Priest, presiding. Chapters represented, 26; number making returns, 34; showing an increase of members for the year preceeding of 838; and of Exaltations, 427.

No address appears of the Grand High Priest, or report of other Grand officers. The proceedings were limited, occupying only four pages. The report on Foreign Correspondence, by Comp. JAMES KIMBALL, is an

able, candid and impartial review of the proceedings of twelve Grand Chapters, our own included.

The committee close their report with the following truly masonic sentiment:

"The reports reviewed by us all speak of the (*late*) unhappy condition of our country; but "old things have passed away." Let it now be the *work* of every true Mason, each in his particular walk in life, to exert every influence that God has given him, in securing a more glorious and enduring future for our country, that by no act of ours, as citizens or as Masons, shall its future be put in jeopardy.

We trust that before the close of another year your committee may receive words of cheer and encouragement from those jurisdictions who have for so long a period been cut off from all intercourse with us; and may we not hope, that although their altars may have been overthrown, that they are not destroyed; and that our order, tried as it has been during the last four years of alienation and strife, may come forth stronger and more determined, having been tried in the balance and found not wanting."

M. E. RICHARD BRIGGS, of Boston, was elected Grand High Priest, and E. THOMAS WATERMAN, of Boston, was reelected Grand Secretary.

MICHIGAN.

The sixteenth Annual Convocation was held at Detroit Jan. 9th, 10th and 11th, 1865. Every Grand Officer present, and 32 chartered Chapters all represented, and 4 U. D.; 36 made returns and paid dues, except one, whose dues were remitted in consideration of the loss of their hall and effects by fire.

The returns show 2072 members, 545, Exaltations, 73 Rejections, 39 Suspensions, 2 Expulsions, 30 Deaths,

and \$1804.00 paid as dues. The example of our Michigan companions is worthy the imitation of all officers and members of other Grand Masonic bodies, not only in their punctuality and promptness in their attendance, but also in their taking time to deliberate, digest and mature all subject matters claiming their consideration.

The address of the M. E. G. H. P. Comp. BENJ. PORTER, is brief, and exclusively confined to his official acts and matters local to that jurisdiction.

E. Comp. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON, chairman of the committee on Foreign Correspondence, presented a lengthy report on Foreign Correspondence.

In their introduction, the committee say :

“In examining in detail the proceedings of each Grand Chapter, we observe many things pertaining to the ordinary administration of masonic affairs. Upon these we have not thought it necessary to comment. We have also met many things of great beauty, but very few of which we have felt at liberty to transfer to our columns. We have studied to exhibit in few words, the actual condition of the craft ; its attitude in the present exigency of our country ; its attention to the cardinal masonic virtues ; its loyalty to masonic law, and its progress in jurisprudence, as well as to maintain the affectionate and fraternal greetings which have united the craft in all ages before us.”

The committee ably, candidly and impartially review the proceedings of eighteen Grand Chapters—unfortunately ours not included. We were sorry the committee found it unnecessary to make their own comments, for we think there are times and occasions when Grand Chapters and Grand Lodges should speak through their

committees, more especially when extreme radical notions and revolutionary ideas are promulgated.

The committee are judicious and liberal in their quotations from addresses of Grand High Priests and reports of committees, but seldom give an expression of approval or disapproval.

From the address of the Grand High Priest of Rhode Island, Comp. LYMAN CLAPP, in 1853, they quote that portion where he charges gross fraud and imposition upon the craft in the present organization of Royal Arch Masonry in this country, claiming that the degress of M. Master, M. E. Master, and others, are of little importance; that Royal Arch Chapter should be abolished, and the Royal Arch degree restored to the jurisdiction of Blue Lodges; and there the committee leave the subject without a word of comment. Now we are of the opinion that when notions like these, having a revolutionary tendency are broached, however high in authority, they should be met at the very threshold and silenced by public opinion.

In our report of 1864 we had occasion to express our views upon the same subject, which it is unnecessary to repeat; but have the satisfaction in knowing they have been heartily endorsed by other Grand Chapters.

We have no fears that any Grand Chapter as loyal as that of Michigan, or their committee, would countenance so great an innovation, or cherish such ultra notions; but as it is an old saying, that "Silence gives consent," we

fear that their silence may be construed into acquiescence and thus encourage further agitation.

Comp. EBENEZER SPRAGUE, of Battle Creek, was elected Grand H. P., and Comp. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON, of Centreville, was reelected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

Annual Convocation, Sept. 13, 1865, at Trenton ; 12 Chapters were represented ; reported 547 members ; 186 Exaltations. The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. ZEH, delivered his annual address, from which we extract the following remarks, which are pertinent and worthy of consideration in all masonic bodies. He says :

“ One great difficulty which as a fraternity we have to contend with, is the desire on the part of some Chapters, as well as Lodges, to show a rapid growth in membership, often from a laudable intention to extend as broadly as possible the privileges which are conferred, but some times we fear, to help replenish an impoverished treasury. Applications are numerous, and oftentimes the necessary qualifications of a candidate are overlooked. This is in many cases owing to too frequent meetings which necessarily compel the absence of many of the oldest and most experienced companions, and is apt to beget a spirit of indifference, which is ever to be feared and deprecated.

We cannot be too strict in the examination in each and every particular into the qualifications of our candidates. All the checks and guards which are thrown around our elections, show the care and scrutiny we should exercise, and how zealously we should guard our temple from all that would disgrace or pollute its sacred portals. Friendship should never control nor influence the sense of duty ; is he worthy, well qualified, honest, and of good repute ? has he been an honor and credit to that school in which he received his first lessons ? Will he make a good workman, one of whose handiwork we need not be ashamed ; one who will take a deep interest, who will promote the true welfare of the insti-

tution, and in his life and practice exemplify its teachings? These should be our guides, by which to form our judgment and determine the admission of each and every candidate, and no other consideration should govern or control us."

The Grand High Priest reports having decided that a candidate for Exaltation in Royal Arch Masonry must have received the Past Master's degree in the Chapter, which decision was sustained by the report of a committee and approved by a Grand Chapter. *Vice versa*, we suppose his Grand Chapter would hold that a Past Master, having received the degree in the Chapter, must receive it a second time from the hands of actual Past Masters to qualify him to preside over a Blue Lodge; neither of which propositions can we accede to without sufficient reasons, which we have been unable to get from any one satisfactory to our mind. If the degree in either case is the same, which all admit, it seems an idle farce to require it a second time in either case.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is by Comp. WM. F. JEFFERYS, written with his characteristic ability. We extract the following beautiful and truly Masonic sentiment from the introductory part of his report:

"The 'tidings from the craft' come to you this year as Noah's dove came to the ark, with the olive branch of peace; 'the roar of cannon,' 'the din of musketry,' and the 'clash of arms' have ceased. We have no longer to inquire, 'what is the cause of all this confusion in and about the temple?' but our appropriate work now, is to 'search among the rubbish,' find 'the lost keystone,' place it once more in the Royal Arch of National Union, and seek to restore harmony.

Freemasonry has now to perform its great mission in this country which is to '*spread the cement of Brotherly Love and Union.*'"

We believe there is a Divine Providence in the fact that our order is at this time so powerful and numerous, for its influence in the present crisis must prove most salutary.

Such are its laws, rules and landmarks, that there is more to be expected of it, in wiping out the memory of our civil war, and in restoring national harmony, than can be reasonably expected of any other organization in the land. The secret history of its silent workings while the conflict was raging, proves that men who were open enemies with deadly weapons in their hands, were, by its mysterious power, transformed into bosom friends. If such was its influence in actual war, what can it do under the reign of peace?

There is now no civil or military restraint upon its action; we are free to correspond as Masonic Brothers, and Royal Arch Companions, with the members of our fraternity in all sections of our common country; and shall not these open avenues of masonic intercourse become grand channels through which the old Union feeling shall again flow, and may not our beloved order thus become a mighty instrument in the hands of an Allwise Providence in removing the effects of past discord, and restoring national harmony and brotherly love."

The proceedings of 14 Grand Chapters pass his inspection, — those of our Grand Chapter included.

After a brief quotation from our remarks on the address of the G. H. P. and his report, he says :

Our companions in New Hampshire have our thanks for their brief but fraternal notice of this Grand Body, and the assurance that we reciprocate masonic fraternity. We venture to suggest to them that they need to put forth efforts to increase the number of their subordinates, and revive the spirit of Royal Arch Masonry within the limits of their jurisdiction."

We would inform our E. Comp. that we have profited by his suggestion; that since he "ventured to suggest" the above, two new Chapters have been organized; one dormant one revived; one is working under dispensation, and measures are being taken to resuscitate one other

dormant Chapter, so that, in point of numbers, we have a fair prospect of equalling New Jersey.

In speaking of the General Grand Chapter he replies to a prediction in his report for 1861, as follows:

"It is a proud thought for our fraternity, that the future historian will be able to record the fact that while during the struggle of conflicting elements and opinions which produced actual war and bloodshed, all the great national organizations of societies and churches, throughout the country were broken up, divided or dissolved. The one national organization of Royal Arch Masons, although severely tried, withstood the shock, and still remained undivided and undissolved amid the jarring elements of discord and civil war.

Our prediction has now been fulfilled, and has become a part of masonic and national history. If the present convocation of the General Grand Chapter shall prove harmonious (and we do not doubt but it will,) then the union of Royal Arch Masonry in this country is a settled fact. We give our heart and our hand to the perpetuity of the General Grand Chapter."

Having removed from that jurisdiction, he takes leave of his companions in the following affecting strain, and closes his report:

"Companions of New Jersey, we bid you an affectionate farewell; we shall ever retain precious memories of our association with you. We shall remember you in our devotions, and if we meet you no more in the sacred tabernacle of Royal Masonry, we hope to meet you in that temple not made with hands eternal in the heavens.' So mote it be. Amen."

M. E. Comp. J. C. G. ROBERTSON, of Paterson, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. J. WOLVERTON, of Trenton, was reelected Grand Secretary.

NORTH CAROLINA.

While we hail with joy a renewal of fraternal inter-communication with our Southern brethren and companions, we most deeply sympathize with them in their late trials, sufferings, losses, privations and wrongs. The late unhappy war has brought death, desolation, poverty and ruin upon many a fair heritage, and destroyed the fond hopes and prospects of their possessors. While individuals in affluence have been reduced to poverty and ruin, "masonry has not escaped the unsparing ravages of barbarous force." Masonic halls have been desecrated and burned, charters, furniture and regalia purloined, and books and records destroyed.

We have received a pamphlet containing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina for the years of 1863, 4 and 5. Including three U. D., there are 33 Subordinate Chapters under that jurisdiction; 32 are reported as being in arrears in dues. Three only were represented in Grand Chapter.

To show more clearly the condition of the craft in North Carolina, we extract the following paragraph from a report of the "committee on charters and dispensations":

"The committee on charters and dispensations beg leave to submit their report, meager and unsatisfactory as it necessarily must be. No communication, or document, of any description, has been placed in their hands, except a report from the High Priest of Union Chapter, No. 17, with the mortifying statement, that the entire effects of that Chapter, including its Charter, had been ruthlessly destroyed, by the in-

vading army, in its passage through this country, and praying for a duplicate charter, to enable them, legitimately, to pursue their labors. Your committee also learn, verbally, from the delegates present, that most of the Chapters in the State, have shared pretty much the same fate as Union, No. 17; and that, while this devastation was going on, none were found with sufficient philanthropy of feeling, to heed the cry of the widow's son. A similar outrage was perpetrated upon the Lodge in this place; the jewels having been abstracted, probably with the pitiful purpose of melting up. What adds most seriously to the grievance, scarcely one of our institutions has an available dollar in its treasury, and most of the members are in a similar condition; even our Grand Chapter, possesses not the means to defray its ordinary expenses. Of the subordinates, scarcely one is able to cancel its dues, and in this condition of affairs, it becomes incumbent upon the Grand Chapter, to exercise towards the subordinates, all the clemency in its power, and this seems absolutely necessary, even to secure its own existence."

M. E. Comp. G. B. WATERHOUSE, of Raleigh, was elected Grand High Priest, and E. Comp. T. B. CARR, of Wilmington was reelected Grand Secretary.

RHODE ISLAND.

We have received a pamphlet of forty - four pages, containing the annual proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Rhode Island for 1864, 1865, and of a special convocation in 1865; three memorial pages, full returns of five Subordinate Chapters, a list of permanent members, a list of the first five officers since its organization in 1789, a list of Grand Chapters in the United States and Canada, a copy of their civil charter or act of incorporation and Grand Constitution. In 1864 five Subordinate Chapters were represented, four of which returned 40 Exaltations. Comp. NATHAN H. GOULD delivered his annual address,

from which we extract the following short paragraph as applicable and worthy the consideration of all masonic bodies in selecting officers :

“ It is with sorrow that I have noticed the elevation of companions to prominent positions in the Chapter, which they were incompetent to fill ; selected for availability, or because they were next in succession, instead of the most skilfull, thereby weakening and marring the institution, for we well know the efficiency of our Chapters depend in a great degree upon the cultivation of its officers. By cultivation I do not simply mean the well - taught ritualists, but those who have learned to subdue their passions, bringing their natures under the government of proper restraint, with minds alive to the effect of the teachings, which as faithful leaders they are to inculcate, and able to check, in the kindest manner, all irregularities in their incipient stages, and illustrating the beauties of their teachings by living up to them in their daily intercourse with the companions and world ; therefore the greater necessity for care in the selections for so important positions, for they are indeed beacon lights “ seen of all men.”

At the annual convocation in 1865, five Chapters were represented and returned 90 Exaltations.

It appears from the proceedings that the Grand High Priest presented an address which was referred to a committee, but the committee did not report nor is the address published. There was no report on Foreign Correspondence.

Comp. THOS. A. DOYLE, of Providence, was elected M. E. G. H. P. and Comp. SAM. B. SWAN, of Providence, was elected R. E. Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

We have before us the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1861 and 1865. Owing to the position of military affairs rendering access to the place of meeting impracticable no meetings of the Grand Chapter were held in 1862, 1863 and 1864. On the 9th day of October, 1865, the Grand Chapter at Nashville met and held a session, M. E. JOHN FRIZZELL, Grand High Priest, presiding. Twenty Chapters out of fifty-two were represented. No address of the Grand High Priest or report on Foreign Correspondence.

We find nothing out of the ordinary line of legislation except the following novel resolution :

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to estimate the damages this Grand Chapter has sustained by the occupation of the Masonic Temple of this city, as a hospital, by authority of the federal government, and the loss thereby of its robes, jewels, etc. ; and that the claim of this Grand Chapter, when made out, be forwarded to Comp. A. M. HUGHES, General Claim Agent for the State of Tennessee at Washington City, to be filed against the United States Government.

We see no injustice in claims of that character against the government and hope our Tennessee companions may be successful in obtaining full compensation for the damage they have sustained, and trust that our government will have the magnanimity to allow all just claims of a like character. Comp. JOHN FRIZZELL, of Winchester, was elected Grand High Priest and Comp. CHARLES A. FULLER, of Nashville, was reelected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

Annual Convocation, October 4, 1865. Thirteen Chapters were represented, making a return of 970 members. No return of Exaltations is published. Dues paid, \$322.00.

M. E. GAMALIEL WASHBURN, Grand High Priest, delivered his annual address, in which he says that he attended the General Grand Chapter at Chicago in 1859, and became satisfied that its existence was of no benefit to the State Grand Chapters and that he attended the Grand Chapter of Vermont in 1860 and voted in favor of a resolution dissolving its connection with the General Grand Chapter, and as yet has had no desire for a reunion. He also gives a brief but interesting sketch of his masonic life.

Comp. C. F. DANA submitted a report on Foreign Correspondence, giving a fair and faithful summary of the proceedings of 15 Grand Chapters, our own included, but, so far as we can find, makes no comments, nor expresses any opinion upon any subject therein discussed.

We copy from the introduction of his report the following beautiful Masonic sentiment, to which we respond a hearty Amen :

" We avail ourselves of this opportunity to tender to all our Royal Arch brethren, throughout the land, our sincere and hearty congratulations, upon the termination of the deadly struggle that has raged with such fury for four years past, and we hope to renew, ere long, with our southern Grand Chapters, the preëxisting cordial and fraternal relations which marked our intercourse. It is the earnest prayer of our hearts

that next year, we shall be once more in the receipt of those interesting transcripts from the sunny South, which have always given us so high an opinion of the masonic virtues and qualifications of the companions in that part of the Union."

M. E. Comp. L. B. ENGLSBY, of Burlington, was elected Grand High Priest, and E. J. B. HOLLENBECK, of Burlington, was reelected Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

Annual Convocation Dec. 16, 1865. Their Subordinate Chapters, number 50 and 1 U. D.; 1 is noted as extinct; 2 made no return for ten years; 6 for six years; 5 for five years; 3 for four years and 1 for three years; 16 were represented, returned 1455 members, and paid dues \$445.00; dues reported as not paid, \$699.00.

M. E. Comp. JOHN DOVE, as chairman, presented a brief report on Foreign Correspondence. From our knowledge of his long experience and superior ability, as a masonic writer, we must say we were disappointed in the extreme brevity of his report.

He reports upon the proceedings of 14 Grand Chapters in gross, and through the politeness of other Grand Chapters has been made acquainted with those of seven others, ours included, the most of which he has carefully read, and takes great pleasure in saying they seem everywhere to be pursuing the even tenor of Royal Arch Masonry, and consequently present few subjects for criticism or discussion.

After quoting from the address of the Grand High Priest of Missouri, he closes with hearty congratulations to all sister jurisdictions for their continued harmony and success, and asks a continuance of fraternal interchange of communication.

M. E. GEO. W. DAME, Danville, was elected Grand High Priest, and M. E. JOHN DOVE was re-elected Grand Secretary.

GENERAL GRAND CHAPTER.

Of the benefits which have resulted from the organization of a General Grand Chapter, or may in future be derived to State Grand Chapters, by its continuance, and of the right of State Grand Chapters to withdraw from its jurisdiction, we have already expressed an opinion and have nothing to add on those points, but we feel it a duty we owe to this Grand Chapter to lay before it the action of that body at its late Triennial Convocation, what it did and what it proposes hereafter to do.

It is probably well-known that the Triennial Convocation appointed to be held at Memphis, Tennessee, in 1862, went by default, in consequence of the political troubles of the country rendering it impossible to assemble at the time and place designated.

The General Grand Chapter was convened in Colum,

bus, Ohio, Sept., 1865, under a summons issued by M. E. ALBERT G. MACKEY, Gen. Grand High Priest. Being unable to attend in person he sent his communication, which is characteristic of his strong mind, clear head and warm heart, and which we would be glad to give in full, but our limits will not admit. We must therefore be content with the following brief extract:

"In May, 1860, under the provisions of a resolution of the General Grand Chapter, I assembled the general grand officers at the city of Washington, for the purpose of inquiring into and establishing the true and ancient work. The Grand King and Grand Scribe were present, and our deliberations, which lasted for a week, were aided by the counsels of several distinguished members from different parts of the country. We succeeded, I think, satisfactorily to all parties, in adopting a system of work."

Then again he says:

"In the fratricidal contest which for four years has deluged our country with blood, Freemasonry, if it has not done all that it should have done, has at least done more than any other organization of men towards ameliorating the horrors and inhumanity of war. On the field, in the hospital and the prison, Masonry has been seen exerting her beneficial influences, and, saving life, comforting the sick and wounded, and lessening the evils of captivity. For what she has done in this way we should be proud of our noble institution. Her teaching has always been, like that of her great Patron, the Evangelist, 'Children, love one another.' There have been, alas! for the infirmity of our humanity, too many instances in which this teaching has been, for the time, forgotten. But it has never been repudiated. There is no Mason living who will deny that love is the chief corner-stone upon which the edifice of masonry is erected. In theory we are all right. In practice we are too often wrong.

But if the theory be there—if the doctrine be admitted—what remains for us, the chiefs of the order, but to insist upon the practice and to give life and energy to the doctrine.

At the first outbreak of the rebellion, attempts were made by many distinguished Masons to stem the tide of approaching war. The attempts were noble, but the advice was unheeded. Passion had closed the ear and dethroned the judgment. Yet that the attempt was made is

a proud record for the men who made it, and for the institution whose principles had prompted it.

The war is now over. The sword is to be turned into a ploughshare. But although there is no longer a battle of arms, dissensions still exist. Bitter feeling is not altogether allayed. Some men will remember the past with revengeful or unforgiving thought. Now, then, is the time for masonry again to raise her warning voice. To say unto her children that they are of one household and of one faith. To beseech them to lay aside all bitter animosity, to remember that they have a common language and a common altar, and throwing the veil over the cruel struggles of the past to seek in the future every opportunity of doing good to each other. Let them cultivate that spirit of forbearance and of kindness which will make men say, 'Behold, how these Masons love one another.'

If masonry is good for anything it is good for this. If it is capable of accomplishing anything it is capable of accomplishing this. If our professions are not mere words—if our obligations and charges have any weight—if our symbols and allegories contain any meaning, then does masonry oblige us to the law of love, and then it is our duty when hatred still lingers in the land to seek to overcome that hatred with love, and to inaugurate a new era, when every American Mason shall exhibit to his fellow citizens who are beyond our pale, the great fact that American Masons know no North, no South, no East, no West, but only one common country, undivided and indivisible.

The M.: E.: JOHN L. LEWIS, Dep. Gen. Gr. H. P., made a report of his official acts in which he alludes to a meeting of the General Grand Council in 1860, for the purpose of establishing uniformity in chapter work, which he attended, not in person, but by an able and efficient proxy, Comp. JAMES M. AUSTIN. Knowing, as we did, of the meeting of the Grand Council, their object, and their success in agreeing upon a system of work, so satisfactory to themselves at least, we did hope that some efforts would have been made at the late triennial meeting to exemplify and disseminate it among the various Grand Chapters; instead of that it was not mentioned or even alluded to, except as before named.

Two unimportant amendments were made to the General Grand Constitution. The first was of sec. 1, art. 1, by striking out the words, "On the first Tuesday of September, at such place" and inserting, "at such time and place," simply changing the time of the triennial meetings from a day certain to such time as should be previously designated.

The second amendment was that of the first clause of the 2d sec., 1st art., in relation to the powers of the general grand chapter, by striking out the words, "are expressly granted and delegated to it by them, or as are," so that it will thus read, "The General Grand Chapter has and possesses no other powers than such as are indispensably necessary," &c.

Several other important amendments of the constitution were proposed, giving to that body greater authority over State Grand Chapters, and laid over till the next triennial convocation in 1868, which is not now necessary to discuss.

Comp. JOHN L. LEWIS, jr., of Penn Yan, N. Y., was elected Gen. Gr. H. P. and Comp. JOHN D. CALDWELL, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was reelected Gen. Grand Secretary.

And now, companions, having noticed all the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters which have come to our hands, we close this brief and imperfect report, trusting that the many discouragements, under which we have labored, will be a sufficient apology for our imperfections.

HORACE CHASE.

ORDER OF HIGH PRIESTHOOD.

The Council of High Priests of the State of New Hampshire was held at Concord, June 12, 1866. Present:

Comps. THOMAS E. HATCH, *President.*

JOHN J. BELL, *Vice Pres., pro tem.*

HORACE CHASE, *Secretary.*

J. D. PATTERSON, *Chaplain.*

JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *Conductor.*

LEWIS WOODMAN, *Master of Ceremonies.*

JONAS LIVINGSTON, *Herald.*

The Council was opened, for the dispatch of business, in due form.

The following companions presented the proper certificates of their election and installation as High Priests, to wit: THOMAS SPURLIN, of Belknap Chapter No. 8; THOMAS J. SANBORN, of Trinity Chapter No. 2; WM. W. LADD, of Webb Chapter No. 6. WM. P. WALKER, of Washington Chapter No. 3; CHARLES W. HARVEY, P. H. Priest of Trinity Chapter No. 2, and EDWARD PARKER of Meridian Sun Chapter No. 9, and were severally introduced, set apart and consecrated to the office of High Priests in ancient form.

On motion of Comp. HORACE CHASE the officers of the past year were unanimously reelected.

On motion of Comp. J. J. BELL, Comps. HATCH, BELL and CHASE were appointed a committee to report a code of By-Laws or Constitution for the government of the Council.

The Council was then closed without ceremony.

A true record : Attest,

HORACE CHASE, *Secretary*.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE,
AT ITS
ANNUAL CONVOCATION, HELD AT CONCORD,

JUNE,



1867.

MANCHESTER :
PRINTED BY C. F. LIVINGSTON, SMYTH'S BLOCK.
1867.

Freemasons. New Hampshire, N.Y.
Arch Masons: Grand Chapter

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND ROYAL ARCH CHAPTER
OF
NEW HAMPSHIRE.
FOR 1867.

The M. E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New Hampshire assembled in Annual Convocation in Concord, on Tuesday, the 11th day of June, A. D. 1867, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

A constitutional number of Grand Officers and members being present the Grand Chapter was opened by the M. E. Grand High Priest in ample form, with prayer by Comp. and Rev. JAMES ADAMS, E. Grand Chaplain,

On motion of Comp. A. M. WINN,

Voted, to dispense with the reading of the proceedings of the last Annual Convocation of the Grand Chapter the same having been published and in the hands of the members.

On motion of Comp. D. R. MARSHALL,

Resolved, That all Royal Arch Masons in regular

standing be admitted to seats in the Grand Chapter as visiting companions.

The M. E. Grand High Priest appointed the following standing committees :

Committee on Credentials,—Comps. L. W. NICHOLS, HIRAM CLARK, D. W. BUCKMINSTER.

Committee on Chapters,—Comps. WM. BARRETT, J. D. PATTERSON, ABRAM PUSHEE.

Committee on Finance,—EDWARD FARRER, Jr., M. L. MORRISON, L. J. GRAVES.

The M. E. Grand High Priest read his annual

ADDRESS.

COMPANIONS:—The labors of another year have closed, and it affords me sincere pleasure to offer you my congratulations upon the continued harmony and prosperity of our Royal Institution. Nothing has arisen within our borders to call for any special notice, or to disturb, in the least, the even tenor of our way. Let us with gratitude acknowledge the many blessings of the past, and humbly invoke of our Great High Priest above, a continuance of his loving kindness and of that peace which passeth understanding.

During the past year none of our companions, members of this Grand Chapter, have been called from their

earthly labors, and as far as I have been able to learn, none have suffered in mind, body or estate, more than usually falls to the lot of those who travel life's rugged paths.

At our last Annual Convocation there were eleven Chapters organized and working under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter. August first, upon the petition of the constitutional number of Royal Arch Masons, and the consent of Trinity Chapter No. 2, I granted a dispensation to establish a Chapter at Henniker, to be called Woods Chapter, in remembrance of one of the oldest and most faithful masonic laborers in that vicinity. appointing our venerable Companion, P.: D.: G.: H.: P.: HORACE CHASE, to be their first High Priest; IMRI WOODS their first King, and JOSIAH MORSE their first Scribe. The Chapter was duly organized, and in October I paid them an official visit. I was pleased to find such fervency and zeal among them, although but just entering upon what I trust and hope may be a long career of usefulness and duty. The hall used by this Chapter not being suitably arranged to confer all the degrees, and the companions being desirous of practising a laudable economy in their day of small things, upon their application, I granted my dispensation "to M.: E.: HORACE CHASE, High Priest, to hold special Convocations of that Chapter at Concord for the purpose of working the Royal Arch Degree upon suitable candidates, he causing due and timely notice to be given to the

companions of his Chapter, and conducting in all respects according to the ancient rules and regulations of Freemasonry." This dispensation to continue in force until this day.

On the 19th of December I received a request from Washington Chapter No. 3, for a dispensation allowing them to postpone the annual election of officers of that Chapter for a few days, as the time designated by their By Laws, (the 4th Tuesday of Dec.) fell upon Christmas night, and it was feared that it would be impossible to convene a sufficient number of the companions. I granted their request, allowing a special convocation to be held at such time within thirty days, as should seem best suited to promote the interests of the craft.

I would again call the attention of this Grand Chapter to the inconvenience of the present want of uniformity in the time of holding the elections in the several subordinate Chapters, and would again recommend that some action should be taken by them, whereby the several annual convocations shall be held at such a time before the annual convocation of this body, as shall allow the newly elected officers to be regularly installed previous to that time, that they may be present with us to get such information in regard to their duties as they may require, and that their names may be entered on the books of the Grand Secretary, properly, thereby preventing confusion or delay in case of correspondence.

A few days since I received a communication from the

High Priest, King and Scribe of Pemigewassett Chapter No. 13, protesting against the revival of Union Chapter, formerly located at Sanbornton, and the removal of the same to Laconia. Not having had a petition presented me for either of those objects I could of course take no action. I understand that a petition asking for these privileges will probably be presented for your consideration from several of the original companions of Union Chapter. I trust that you will give both parties a full and fair hearing in the case, and decide in such a manner as to leave no heart-burning or ill-will in the minds of either—remembering that harmony is the strength and support of all societies, more especially this of ours.

During the past year I have visited six of the twelve of our working Chapters, and am happy to state that in every instance I have found the work done in conformity with that adopted by this Grand Chapter. There have been *slight* variations in some phrases, but so slight that it needed a critic's ear to recognize them. I have uniformly found the officers of the Chapters active, intelligent, and enthusiastic in the discharge of their respective duties, and the members self-reliant and gentlemanly in their bearing, holding the confidence and esteem of the several communities in which they dwell,—a living and flattering testimonial of the influence of the teachings of our beloved order upon their daily lives and conversation.

I regret that unforeseen obstacles have prevented my

visiting each Chapter in the State, but trust that the usual good reports may come up from them, having authorized other members of the Grand Council to perform that duty.

In conclusion, companions, permit me to return to you my sincere thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me in twice electing me to this responsible station. To be the head of this noble institution for a single year is a high honor, rendered doubly pleasing by the prompt and generous ratification of my official conduct by your approval. The increasing cares of business have rendered it inconvenient for me to attend to all my masonic duties during the past year, and having no further masonic ambition, or aspiration to be gratified, I most respectfully and firmly decline a reelection, trusting that the companion to whom you delegate the office, will serve you as faithfully as I have endeavored to do.

REPORT OF THE E. GRAND KING.

The E. Grand King made the following Report :

To the M. E. G. R. A. Chapter of New Hampshire :

At the request of our M. E. Grand High Priest, I consented to visit Trinity Chapter No. 2, at Concord, and Mount Horeb Chapter No. 11, at Manchester. Accordingly I made my arrangements to visit Mount Horeb Chapter No. 11 on Wednesday evening, May 8th, and witness the work on the R. A. degree. Owing to

peculiar circumstances I was unable to be present at that time, but from what I have heard of their condition and manner of working, and the well-known zeal and masonic ability of its officers and companions I may safely say it will compare favorably with any Chapter in the State. May 28th, I visited Trinity Chapter at Concord. I was cordially received and hospitably entertained. The Mark and Past Masters' degrees were conferred in a very satisfactory and commendable manner. The Chapter is in a prosperous and flourishing condition, their meetings being well attended, and their membership very efficient. I had the pleasure of meeting a number who had long wrought in the quarries. Long may they be spared to brighten the chain of friendship and work in the mystic art.

Respectfully submitted.

DANIEL B. MARSHALL, *Grand King*.

On motion of Comp. ADAMS,

Resolved, That when the Grand Chapter shall call from labor it be till 2 o'clock this afternoon, and that 2 o'clock P. M. be assigned for the election of Grand Officers.

On motion of Comp. BARRETT, the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest and report of E. Grand King were referred to a special committee consisting of Comps. JAMES ADAMS, EDWIN VAUGHAN, and THOMAS J. SANBORN.

The M. E. Grand High Priest presented the petition

of CHARLES LANE and others for the revival of Union Chapter No. 7, and removal of same from Sanbornton to Laconia, and also the remonstrance of HIRAM CLARK and others against the same, which were referred to the Committee on Chapters.

The Grand Chapter was then called from labor till 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

AFTERNOON.

At 2 o'clock P. M., the Grand Chapter reassembled. Present as in the morning.

The Committee on Credentials made report of the following Grand Officers, Past Grand Officers, Members and Visitors in attendance and entitled to seats in the Grand Chapter, which report was accepted.

GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. THOMAS E. HATCH, *M. E. G. H. P.*

“ N. W. CUMNER, *E. D. G. H. P.*

“ DANIEL R. MARSHALL, *E. G. K.*

“ JOHN KNOWLTON, *E. G. T.*

“ HORACE CHASE, *E. G. S.*

“ JAMES ADAMS, *E. G. C.*

“ JOHN A. HARRIS, *E. G. C. H.*

“ THOMAS SPURLIN, *E. G. P. S.*

“ ADONIRAM A. SMALLEY, *G. M. 3d V.*

Comp. GEORGE H. TRUE, *G. S.*

“ GEORGE L. REED, *G. T.*

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

Comp. JOHN KKOWLTON, *P. G. H. Priest.*

“ HORACE CHASE, *P. G. D. H. Priest.*

“ H. G. HARRIS, *P. G. S.*

OFFICERS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

ST. ANDREWS CHAPTER, NO. 1.

ABRAM PUSHEE, *M. E. High Priest.*

ADONIRAM A. SMALLEY, *E. Scribe.*

TRINITY CHAPTER, NO. 2.

THOMAS J. SANBORN, *M. E. High Priest.*

JOHN A. HARRIS, *E. King.*

ELIJAH KNIGHT, *E. Scribe.*

CHESHIRE CHAPTER, NO. 4.

EDWARD GUSTINE, *M. E. High Priest.*

EDWARD FARRAR, *proxy for E. King.*

D. W. BUCKMINSTER, *E. Scribe.*

FRANKLIN CHAPTER, NO. 5.

JAMES R. YOUNG, *proxy for M. E. H. Priest.*

WEBB CHAPTER, NO. 6.

LELAND J. GRAVES, *proxy for M. E. H. Priest.*
EDWIN VAUGHAN, *E. Scribe.*

BELKNAP CHAPTER, NO. 8.

THOMAS SPURLIN, *proxy for M. E. H. Priest.*
A. M. WINN, *proxy for E. King.*
JOHN D. LYMAN, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

MERIDIAN SUN CHAPTER, NO. 9.

WILLIAM BARRETT, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

MOUNT HOREB CHAPTER, NO. 11.

ASA A. BALCH, *M. E. H. Priest.*
GEORGE H. TRUE, *E. King.*
JOHN D. PATTERSON, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

PETERBOROUGH CHAPTER, NO. 12.

M. L. MORRISON, *M. E. H. Priest.*
JOHN WILDER, *E. King.*

PEMIGEWASSETT CHAPTER, NO. 13.

HIRAM CLARK, *M. E. H. Priest.*
OLIVER MCQUESTEN, *proxy for E. King.*
HENRY W. BLAIR, *proxy for E. Scribe.*

VISITING COMPANIONS.

Comps. ALPHEUS BAKER, No. 1; LUTHER W. NICHOLS, DANIEL BARNARD, CHARLES W. HARVEY, OLIVER C. FISHER, AUGUSTUS G. HARRIS, DANIEL JOHNSON, WESLEY J. ROBINSON, HENRY L. HARRIS, H. I. CAMPBELL, JEREMIAH CROSS, JOHN SHIRLEY, No. 2; SOLON A. CARTER, No. 4; J. L. LAMBERTON, No. 6; CYRUS K. DRAKE, FRANK R. CHASE, M. L. BRADFORD, SAMUEL M. WHEELER, CHARLES A. TUFTS, No. 8; CHARLES F. LIVINGSTON. No. 11; THOMAS RUST, *Wolfborough*; CHARLES LANE, F. RUSSELL, J. THOMPSON, *Laconia*; B. L. JOHNSON, *Sanbornton*.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

The committee to whom was referred the address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, and report of E. King, having examined the same beg leave to report the following resolution.

Resolved, That each subordinate Chapter under the jurisdiction of this Grand Chapter be requested to so far amend their by-laws as to have their election of officers take place at the Convocation next preceeding the first day of May.

JAMES ADAMS,	} Committee.
EDWIN VAUGHAN,	
THOMAS J. SANBORN,	

Which report was accepted and resolution adopted.

The Grand High Priest appointed Comps. JOHN A. HARRIS and EDWIN VAUGHAN a committee to collect, sort and declare the state of votes, and the Grand Chapter proceeded to the election of Grand Officers, when the following companions were severally declared duly elected:

NATH'L W. CUMNER, Manchester, *M. E. G. H. P.*

DANIEL R. MARSHALL, Nashua, *E. D. G. H. P.*

JOHN A. HARRIS, Concord, *E. Grand King.*

EDWARD GUSTINE, Keene, *E. Grand Scribe.*

JOHN KNOWLTON, Portsmouth, *E. G. Treasurer.*

HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *E. Grand Secretary.*

ASAHEL A. BALCH, Manchester, *E. G. C. H.*

REPORT ON CHAPTERS.

The Committee on Chapters report that returns have been received from the following subordinate Chapters, showing a good and healthy progress in increasing the membership throughout the State, and exhibiting an encouraging degree of interest and zeal in the order.

The returns presented to, and examined by us, show the number of Exaltations and Members as follows:

St. Andrew's Chapter, No. 1,	12	Exalt.	49	Memb.
Trinity Chapter,	2,	13	"	160
†Washington Chapter,	3,	42	"	194
Cheshire Chapter,	4,	12	"	87
Franklin Chapter,	5,	10	"	117
Webb Chapter,	6,	22	"	81
†Belknap Chapter,	8,	24	"	69
Meridian Sun Chapter,	9,	6	"	76
Mount Horeb Chapter,	11,	9	"	134
Peterborough Chapter,	12,	13	"	52
Pemigewasset Chapter,	13,	9	"	36
<hr/>				
Whole No. of Chapters,	11	172		1055

Upon the subject matter of the petition of CHARLES LANE and others praying for the revival of Union Chapter, No. 7, and the removal of the same from Sanbornton to Laconia, and the remonstrance of HIRAM CLARK and others against the same, your committee submit the following resolution :

Resolved, That the prayer of the petition of CHARLES LANE and others for the revival of Union Chapter, No. 7, and the removal of the same from Sanbornton to Laconia, be granted.

Your committee would further recommend that the

†Error in the above report which does not change the result. The number of Exaltations in Washington Chapter, No. 3, should be 24 instead of 42; and those of Belknap Chapter should be 42 instead of 24. Woods Chapter U. D. returned 6 Exaltations which are not reported, making the whole number of Exaltations 178.

jurisdiction of Union Chapter, No. 7, at Laconia, shall not include within its limits the towns of Franklin and Bristol.

Your committee also recommend that the petition of Comp. HORACE CHASE and others, praying for a Warrant of Constitution for Woods Chapter at Henniker, be granted. All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM BARBETT, }
JOHN D. PATTERSON, } Committee.

Which report was accepted, and the resolution and recommendations reported by said committee were adopted.

Comp. HORACE CHASE submitted the following resolution, which was adopted.

Resolved, That Woods Chapter be allowed to work under their dispensation until the Grand Secretary can furnish a Warrant of Constitution, duly signed by the Grand Officers.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance report that they have examined the account of the Grand* Treasurer and find him chargeable as follows :

To balance in his hands as reported last	
year, - - - - -	\$791 79
To interest to June 11, '67, 5 per cent.	39 58
To cash of Grand Sec'y, this day,	308 00
	<hr/>
	\$1139 37

The following unpaid bills are in the hands of the Grand Treasurer which the committee recommend to be paid, to wit:

Thos. E. Hatch, G. H. P.,	\$23 50
D. R. Marshall,	2 60
Geo. L. Reed,	2 00
McFarland & Jenks,	1 75
Horace Chase, Grand Secretary,	66 16
John Knowlton, G. Treas. commission,	11 39
	<hr/>
	\$107 40
	<hr/>
Cash on hand,	\$1031 97

E. FARRAR,	}	Committee.
M. L. MORRISON,		
L. J. GRAVES,		

Which report was accepted and concurred in.

M. E. THOMAS E. HATCH installed the Grand Officers elect in due and ancient form.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, after being duly installed, made the following appointments :

Comp. THOMAS SPURLIN, Dover, *E. G. P. Sojourner*.

“ WILLIAM BARRETT, Nashua, *E. G. R. A. Capt.*

“ EDWIN VAUGHAN, Claremont, *G. M. of 3d V.*

“ HIRAM CLARK, Plymouth, *G. M. of 2d V.*

“ L. J. GRAVES, Langdon, *G. M. of 1st V.*

“ GEORGE H. TRUE, Manchester, } *G. Stewards.*
 “ M. L. MORRISON, Peterborough, }

“ GEORGE L. REED, Concord, *G. Tyler.*

who were duly installed.

Comp. HORACE CHASE offered the following resolution which was adopted :

Resolved, That in all cases of dispensation granted by the M. E. Grand High Priest or E. Deputy Grand High Priest, for conferring the Chapter degrees out of the ordinary constitutional time, the candidates for whose benefit said dispensations are granted shall pay each the sum of five dollars for the benefit of the Chapter conferring said degrees ; and that no Chapter under this jurisdiction shall confer any degrees by virtue of any dispensation without exacting of the candidate the sum of five dollars in addition to the ordinary and usual fees.

Comp. D. R. MARSHALL called up the proposed amendment of the 17th article of the Grand Regulations,

and on motion of Comp. HORACE CHASE the subject was indefinitely postponed.

Comp. THOS. SPURLIN offered the following resolution :

Resolved, That the town of Exeter be disannexed from the jurisdiction of Washington Chapter.

On taking the question on the adoption of said resolution it was decided in the negative, so the resolution was rejected.

The M. E. G. High Priest appointed Comps. HORACE CHASE, ABEL HUTCHINS and DYER H. SANBORN a Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

On motion of Comp. H. CHASE,

Voted, That the G. H. Priest examine the bill of Comp. C. F. LIVINGSTON for printing when presented, and if found correct draw an order on the Grand Treasurer for the payment of the same.

There being no further business before the Grand Chapter it was closed in ample form, with prayer by the Grand Chaplain.

A true record. Attest :

HORACE CHASE,

Grand Secretary.

Address of M. E. Grand High Priest:

NATHANIEL W. CUMNER, Esq.,

• *Manchester, N. H.*

Address of Grand Secretary:

HON. HORACE CHASE,

Hopkinton, N. H.

AN ABSTRACT OF RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE CHAPTERS.

June, A. D., 1867.

417

Chapter.	No.	Location.	Mem.	Enlt.	Dues.	High Priests.	Secretaries.	Time of Stated Meetings.
ST. ANDREWS	1	Lebanon,	49	12	\$24	ABRAM PUSHER,	O. S. WRIGHT,	Tuesday on or after F. M.
TRINITY	2	Concord,	160	13	24	T. J. SANBORN,	L. W. NICHOLS,	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
WASHINGTON	3	Portsmouth,	130	24	48	W. FREEMAN,	OLIVER G. FERNALD,	Fourth Tuesday of each mo.
CHESHIRE	4	Keene,	87	12	24	EDWARD GUSTINE,	GEO. S. WOODWARD,	Monday on or after F. M.
FRANKLIN	5	Lisbon,	117	10	20	S. P. FORD,	JAMES R. YOUNG,	Tuesday after week of F. M.
WEBB	6	Claremont,	81	22	44	JOHN J. PRENTISS,	THOMAS E. GOWDEY,	Third Monday of each mo.
BELKNAP	8	Dover	194	42	84	JOSEPH HARTFORD,	AMASA ROBERTS,	Friday nearest F. M.
MERIDIAN SUN	9	Nashua,	76	12	24	ARTHUR G. PARKER,	JACOB D. MARCH,	Monday on or before F. M.
MOUNT HOEB.	11	Manchester,	134	9	18	A. A. BALCH,	S. B. KIDDER,	Second Wednesday of each mo. except June, July and Aug.
PETERBOROUGH	12	Peterborough, ...	82	13	26	M. L. MORRISON,	I. L. HILDBRETH,	Tuesday on or before F. M.
PENINGWASSETT	13	Plymouth,	36	9	18	HIRAM CLARK,	JOHN MASON,	First Wed. of each mo.
WOODS, U. D.	14	Henniker,		6	12	HORACE CHASE,	L. W. COGSWELL,	Friday on or before F. M.
	12		1146	184	386			

List of Principal Officers of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of New - Hampshire since its organization in 1819.

Grand High Priest.	D. G. High Priest.	Grand King.	Grand Scribe.	Grand Secretary.	Year.
JOHN HARRIS,*	THOMAS S. BOWLES,*	HENRY HUTCHINSON,*	BROUGHTON WHITE,*	THOMAS W. COLBY,*	1819
"	"	BROUGHTON WHITE,*	HENRY HUTCHINSON,*	"	1820
THOMAS S. BOWLES,*	JOHN PRENTISS.	TIMOTHY KENRICK,*	H. G. HARRIS,	"	1821
JONATHAN NYE,*	JAMES F. DANA,*	SAMUEL CUSHMAN,*	EDWARD DEAN,	"	1822
THOMAS W. COLBY,*	ALPHEUS BAKER,	DANIEL BRADFORD,	NATHAN BINGHAM,	TIMOTHY KENRICK,*	1823
SAMUEL CUSHMAN,*	ARTEMAS ROGERS,*	THOMAS BEEDE,*	GODFREY STEVENS,*	"	1824
"	"	"	FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	"	1825
"	FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	JOSEPH W. WHITE,*	OLIVER HEATON,	ALBE CADY,*	1826
FRED'K A. SUMNER,*	JOSEPH E. WHITE,	OLIVER HEATON,	HORACE CHASE,	"	1827
"	JOSEPH W. WHITE,*	"	"	"	1828
"	ANDREW PIERCE,*	HORACE CHASE,	B. L. GREENOUGH,	"	1829
ANDREW PIERCE,*	HORACE CHASE,	B. L. GREENOUGH,	WM. BOARDMAN,	"	1830
"	ARTEMAS ROGERS,*	ROBERT SMITH,*	STEPHEN S. PALMER,	"	1831
JONATHAN NYE,*	ROBERT SMITH,*	CALVIN BENTON,*	B. L. GREENOUGH,	"	1832
ROBERT SMITH,*	L. B. GREENOUGH,	WILLIAM BOARDMAN,	CHARLES LANE,	"	1833
L. B. GREENOUGH,	LEMUEL L. BARKER,	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	CALEB WENTWORTH,	"	1834
"	SAM'L HUTCHINSON,*	JONATHAN NYE,*	CHARLES LANE,	"	1835
"	"	"	"	"	1836
ROBERT SMITH,*	WEARE TAPPAN,	SAM'L HUNTINGTON,*	ABEL HUTCHINS,*	"	1837
"	"	"	"	"	1838
WEARE TAPPAN,	ABEL HUTCHINS,	DANIEL CHASE,*	DAVID PARKER,*	"	1839
"	"	"	"	"	1840
DANIEL CHASE,*	"	DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	"	1841

DANIEL CHASE,*	ABEL HUTCHINS,	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	ALBE CADY,*	1842
"	DAVID PARKER,	"	"	"	1843
DAVID PARKER,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN KNOWLTON,	HOSEA FESSENDEN,	1844
"	"	JAMES COLLINS,	JAMES COLLINS,	"	1845
PHILEMON TOLLES,*	JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	"	1846
"	"	HORACE CHASE,	HORACE CHASE,	"	1847
JOHN KNOWLTON,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	JOHN J. PRENTISS,	NICHOLAS FOWLER,*	"	1848
"	HOSEA FESSENDEN,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	HORACE CHASE,	1849
JOHN J. PRENTISS,	DANIEL BALCH,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	WILLIAM CARR,	"	1850
DANIEL BALCH,	ALBERT R. HATCH,	"	"	"	1851
"	"	T. T. ABBOT,	T. T. ABBOT,	"	1852
ALBERT R. HATCH,	JOHN CHRISTIE,	"	MOSES PAUL,*	"	1853
"	"	SAMUEL KELLY,	"	"	1854
JOHN CHRISTIE,	T. T. ABBOT,	MOSES PAUL,*	PHILEMON TOLLES,*	"	1855
"	"	"	JERE. F. DANIELL,	"	1856
THEODORE T. ABBOT,	MOSES PAUL,*	JEREMIAH F. DANIELL.	GEORGE H. HUBBARD,	"	1857
"	"	GEORGE H. HUBBARD,	"	"	1858
"	"	"	"	"	1859
MOSES PAUL,*	GEO. H. HUBBARD,	JONAS LIVINGSTON,	RICHARD N. ROSS.	"	1860
JONAS LIVINGSTON,	SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	E. W. HARRINGTON,	THOMAS PEARSON,	"	1861
SAMUEL M. WILCOX,	E. W. HARRINGTON,	THOMAS PEARSON,	RICHARD N. ROSS.	"	1862
E. W. HARRINGTON,	JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	THOMAS E. HATCH,	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	"	1863
JOHN R. HOLBROOK,	THOS. E. HATCH,	WM. H. CUMMINGS,	N. W. CUMNER,	"	1864
THOMAS E. HATCH.	N. W. CUMNER,	D. R. MARSHALL,	LEWIS WOODMAN,	"	1865
"	"	"	"	"	1866
N. W. CUMNER.	D. R. MARSHALL,	JOHN A. HARRIS,	EDWARD GUSTINE,	"	1867

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence had but just closed their labor of reviewing the proceedings of sister Grand Chapters in the form of a report for 1865, when they again find themselves engaged in the same service.

They have no explanation to make, no apology to offer for suddenly appearing in that capacity, but that it is the will of their master, and that what is his will is their pleasure and duty to obey. They may, however, be allowed to wish that he had entrusted this labor to more competent hands; but since it has devolved upon them they will endeavor to discharge their duty to the best of their ability, promising that their report shall be *endowed with one excellent quality, brevity*. With this assurance they proceed to their labors, trusting that they shall verify the saying of the wise man, "To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven," by finding abundant time to be brief in their report.

Of the annual proceedings of other Grand Chapters for 1866 and 1867, the following is before them, which they will endeavor briefly to notice in their order.

Alabama, Arkansas, California, Canada, Connecticut, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, and Kentucky for 1866; Louisiana for 1866 and 1867; Maine, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Michigan for 1866; Mississippi for 1866 and 1867; Missouri and New Jersey for 1866; New York for 1866 and 1867; North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Tennessee, Vermont, and Virginia, for 1866; Wisconsin for 1867.

ALABAMA.

This Grand Chapter met in annual convocation at Montgomery, Dec. 4, 1866. Forty-eight Chapters were represented.

The Grand High Priest, Comp. J. B. HARRISON, was not present, but after the close of the Grand Chapter furnished a brief address principally confined to matters local. Among his decisions made by him during the year he reports three as the most important.

1. That a Chapter cannot adopt any by-laws compelling members to attend every regular convocation, but may require and compel the attendance of its members by special summons on certain emergencies, and that every companion failing to obey such summons, without a satisfactory reason, may be dealt with and punished by reprimand.

mand, suspension or expulsion, but not without a trial.

2. That a Chapter may adopt a by-law declaring any companion who shall be engaged in selling spirituous liquors, guilty of unmasonic conduct, and may be dealt with and on conviction punished by reprimand, suspension or expulsion.

3. That a Master Mason, who should become maimed by the loss of an arm or otherwise, is not thereby debarred from the degrees of Royal Arch Masonry. He says, "It is just such a case as peculiarly commends our unfortunate brother to masonic sympathy and masonic hearts."

With his first and third decisions your committee fully agree, but dissent from the second without reasonable limitations, which the nature of the case would naturally suggest.

His address being furnished the Grand Secretary after the close of the Grand Chapter, it did not receive the sanction of that body.

The report on foreign correspondence by Comp. SAYRE, their able Grand Secretary, is a courteous, well-written masonic document, faithfully and courteously reviewing the proceedings of eighteen Grand Chapters. We regret that Comp. SAYRE had no occasion to say aught for or against the condition of capitular masonry within our jurisdiction, not having received, we presume, our proceedings. We extract his concluding remarks as applicable to some Chapters within our own jurisdiction

with which we have some acquaintance, and hope they may be benefitted by them. He says:

"Your committee have endeavored to lay before the Grand Chapter such a resumé of Royal Arch Masonry in the several jurisdictions of the United States, as shall put it in possession of a knowledge of its present condition, and its prospects for the future. That the order is advancing we need not now repeat in this place. The fear is that it will advance too rapidly. Masonry was never intended to be a popular institution. On the other hand it is an exclusive one. Intended to be so from its foundation. Should it ever become a popular one, in the popular acceptation of the term, it will soon cease to be masonry. Brethren and companions complain that they are doing nothing, and your committee have no doubt that they complain justly. We suspect that they are doing nothing; but doing nothing with them means that they are not overrun with candidates, that they do not have to meet three or four nights in the week to get through with the work, and that there is no money coming into the treasury. And if there is no work to do, they omit the preliminary degrees altogether, and hurry through the last ones in such a slovenly manner, and the presiding officers themselves are apt to forget the work, create disgust in the minds of the young neophytes, and instead of making progress in knowledge, they actually retrograde. These are wrong views, both theoretically and practically, and can only lead to the destruction of the beautiful system for which we profess such unbounded admiration. Why, is it nothing to meet in our sacred retreats, around the Holy Altar? To open and close the several lodges, and rehearse the ceremonies, those beautiful and sublime ceremonies, by means of which we initiate, pass, raise, and exalt the candidate? To compare each other's work, with our recollection of the work of the Grand Chapter or Lodge? To ascertain where we have erred, if we have erred, and to find out the old paths? To devise means for the relief of the unfortunate, and to advance ourselves in virtue, in knowledge, in literature, and in science? Is all this nothing? But, not until we take a real and sincere pleasure in these things; not until masonry becomes less of a utilitarian institution; not until we are less

greedy for candidates, and take delight in polishing the stones already put in the building—and truth compels us to say that some of them are sufficiently rough and uncouth—not, we say, until we can be satisfied with this kind of work, will masonry ever again be what we think it once was, and what we think it was intended to be. Of the true and only proper way to build up a lodge or a chapter, and make it indeed a sacred and refined retreat for kindred minds—to cultivate the graces and ornaments which should pertain to civilized and enlightened men—your committee have a definite idea; and that is, to refuse and reject all doubtful material, and to polish and perfect the ashlar which we have already received. When we do the one, and heartily and earnestly apply ourselves to the other, we shall have done our duty—the result we must leave to God.”

In a page entitled recapitulation we find the following important statistics of the Royal Craft in that jurisdiction: Chapters represented, 48; charters forfeited, 22; members reported, 2850; exalted, 292; dues received, \$1350.00.

The Grand Chapter was in session three days. Comp. GEORGE D. NORRIS, New Market, was elected G. High Priest, and Comp. DANIEL SAYRE, Montgomery, was reelected Grand Secretary.

ARKANSAS.

The Grand Chapter convened in Little Rock, Nov. 1, 1866, M.: E.: LUKE E. BARBER, Grand High Priest presiding, and was in session two days.

Twenty-three Chapters made full returns of officers and members, but the number of members are no where given, nor the number of exaltations, so we are unable to

form any opinion of their increase, and we are not disposed nor have we time to spare to do the work of Grand Secretaries and count up their members for them.

The address of the Grand High Priest is a lengthy, well-written masonic document, containing much good advice, and bearing the impress of an elevated mind, from which we take the following extracts. In view of the short-comings in masonic duties he speaks thus eloquently :

“ Companions, I fear that many of us, if we permit our memories to range unchecked over the past few years, and let our judgments be honestly and impartially exercised, will find that we have often failed in the discharge of fraternal duty. How often have we failed in visiting the afflicted! How often in ministering to the necessities of the needy! How often in mourning with those that mourned! How often, in acts of sympathy, in words of consolation even, to those in sorrow and distress! Happy the man who can look over the past, and feel that none of these suggestions touch him! Unhappy he, who knows that in these or in other instances he has failed in duty! Past opportunity, if unimproved, cannot be recalled, nor can the neglect be atoned for; but the remembrance that we have permitted them to come and go in silent disregard of masonic obligation, should incite us to a more careful and energetic discharge of duty in the present, and in the future.”

He feelingly alludes to the death of their late excellent Grand Secretary and P. G. High Priest, THOMAS D. MERRICK, and recommends that notice be taken of the event appropriate to his station and high masonic and moral character.

He alludes to the large number of non-affiliated Masons and the attempts made to correct the evil. His ideas

upon this subject seem so reasonable and just that we deem them worthy of repetition here.

“Once again, I call your attention to the fact that there is among us a large number of non-affiliated Masons. Our grand masonic bodies have, time and again, made efforts to correct this evil; but, so far, have failed. We may well believe that the efforts made have not been in the right direction, or that there has been some radical error, which, being committed, it is not within the power of masonic legislation to correct. For my own part, I do not believe that the cold, lukewarm, indifferent Mason can be reclaimed. By the denial of privileges, and in the fear that their interests might suffer, some have been brought back to membership; but how have our lodges or chapters been benefitted otherwise than in the least of all service, the payment of dues! They bring to our meetings, if they come at all, the same cold and listless indifference that kept them away. They are of no usefulness to the cause whatever; they add not one stone to our masonic building; as they were drones without, they are drones within our temple. Others withstand all masonic legislation. Such would have no just cause of complaint, were the grand bodies to declare them totally unworthy, and order their expulsion—thus absolving us from all connection with them, as they have attempted to dissolve their connection with us. I have not referred to this class of Masons for the purpose of suggesting any legislation in reference to them, but to express my own opinion as to the cause of the evil, and its most effectual preventive in the future. I believe that it arises from a too great facility of passing from degree to degree, and from order to order. What apprenticeship does the initiate serve? A few questions inaccurately learned and bunglingly answered, and he becomes a fellow-craft; and through the same routine, he is raised to the sublime degree of master, having acquired nothing but some faint impressions of ceremonies, the meaning of which is as little comprehended by him as when he was in darkness; and then he lingers along his masonic pathway for a time, until the novel association becomes familiar, and unenlightened by the rays of truth that beam upon him, he dies masonically, unless called to life at intervals by some procession or

public display. Or, it may be, that though profoundly ignorant of the truths that lie at the very threshold, and too indolent or indifferent to acquire them, he aspires to those supposed to be taught in the higher orders; and in these, he passes through with increased velocity and profounder ignorance of the ways through which he is conducted; and so on to others, as far as he may be permitted to go, with real, elevating knowledge of none. And then! The blue lodge meetings are ignored, and soon a dimit asked for, or in effect taken, by continued, persistent absence; soon the chapter meetings are unattended; and if there be any attractions in the council, or commandery, their meetings may be attended, but with no sense of duty to the craft—with no thought of improvement in themselves.

I am not an advocate for a probation measured by time; but I do think that the character of one seeking advancement, whether from degree to degree, or order to order, should be as carefully inquired into as when he applies to become an initiate—not merely then an inquiry as to morals and intelligence; but also as to his masonic education and masonic knowledge—as to the interest, energy and industry he has evinced for the work—as to his love, and appreciation of the order, as evidenced by his performance of duty. If this were strictly adhered to, and none were admitted to the higher orders except those who are industrious, intelligent and zealous workmen, affiliated and attending members in all the bodies through which they are required to pass, I am strongly inclined to think that when the non-affiliated of our day shall pass away, we may be freed from this reproach upon the order.”

The report on foreign correspondence, by Comp. SAM. W. WILLIAMS, is ably written, generally courteous and exhibits the true masonic spirit, perhaps occasionally a little too high seasoned to suit the fastidious appetites of some, but on the whole it discovers independence of character, a clear head and a sympathetic heart. He ably and faithfully reviews the proceedings of sixteen Grand Chapters, ours included, liberally commending and

courteously reproving, where either commendation or re-proof is deserving.

In commenting on the address of our P. M. E. Grand High Priest HOLMAN he says, "Altogether it is an excellent address, freed from that redundancy of words which characterizes too many addresses, in which thought is exchanged for sound, and sentiment is diluted in pages of high-sounding words. It is chastely written and manifests the proper spirit." Companion WILLIAMS condemns, and very justly too, the practice of officers of a Chapter working and shortening the Past and Most Excellent Masters' degrees, even to communicating them as disclosed in the Grand High Priest's address, and adds :

"All we have to say is, that such proceedings with us would forfeit the charter of our oldest Chapter. We would not tolerate it for a moment, and if companions are too ignorant to confer degrees, and hurry their work, so as really, not to do it at all, they are botchers, and should not be allowed to place a stone in our noble Royal Arch. And the sooner all of our grand bodies crush such proceedings the sooner royal arch masonry will be elevated to its true standard. That secret which a candidate sees written does not impress him as 'much of a secret after all,' and that which is communicated without ceremonies had better be unknown. Strip masonry of its beautiful and impressive ceremonies, and you strip it of most of its interest.

The committee on chapters reported a resolution forbidding abridgment of degrees. The resolution was adopted. So far, so good. Now 'prohibit the outrageous practice of using *rituals*, and you will be doing 'good work' — 'square work' — 'such work as you have orders to make, and we to receive,' and you will be 'entitled to your wages.' "

He says of the report on foreign correspondence, "it is well written, but a little too much condensed," and after quoting a paragraph where we advance the idea that the influence and respectability of the masonic institution depends less upon numbers than upon the moral worth of individual members, says that he only regrets that so much good sense was "too condensed." We would ask our excellent companion if he does not exhibit a little inconsistency when he commends the address of the Grand High Priest for his address being free from redundancy of words, and then find fault that we condense our ideas into too few words. We have always been taught that it was one of the best qualifications of a writer to be able to clothe his ideas in the fewest words, a qualification which we never had the vanity to suppose we possessed. If our ideas, condensed as they were, were understood and approved by our companions it was all we could expect or desire.

He closes his report in the following eloquent and sympathetic language :

"We have thus brought our labors to a close. Among all our correspondents there is but one voice that acknowledges the reception of our proceedings, or expresses one word of welcome at our coming, or regret at our 'wearisome stay.' That is Companion STORER, of Connecticut. 'The old man of whom you speak, is he yet alive?' May he live to write more than twice fifteen more reports, and be gathered to his fathers in a ripe old age, 'as a shock of corn cometh in his season.'

To those of our correspondents who think that this is too long, we say do not read it. And they will feel that its length needs no apology,

when we tell them we are writing for our own people, who for five long weary years of watching, have had no 'light' from the 'east' or 'tidings' from the west, and the last we had was amid the marshalling of embattled hosts, 'when the tide of living valor' was rolling on the foe and 'burning with high hopes;' but alas, are now 'trodden like the grass,' which then beneath, but now above them waves its rich verdure — where they now 'lie mouldering cold and low.'

Nearly all our correspondents report the death of distinguished Masons, which is echoed and re-echoed 'neath the vaulted arch.' Prominent among these, is the distinguished CYRIL PEARL, for fourteen years foreign correspondent for the Grand Chapter of Maine. He has exchanged the pen for the palm of victory; the mitre of an earthly priesthood, for the crown of glory. Since we have commenced writing this report, the news comes to us that ANTHONY O'SULLIVAN is no more. Thus, one by one, like autumn leaves, they fall. 'While musing o'er companions gone' we doubly feel the path of life grow lonely, as one by one we drop behind us those who stood with us when life was young, and as one by one we receive the last farewell grasp, we remember the smile from the lips which death has sealed forever.

Upon a survey of the whole field, we see general harmony prevalent, and but little to mar the beauty of our royal arch, or efface or shake its 'key-stone of love,' and like the sentinel from the watch-tower, we can cry '*All is well.*' "

Should this ever meet the eye of our Arkansas companions we can assure them there is one more voice that acknowledges the reception of their proceedings and rejoices that the time has come when we can again exchange friendly congratulation, and fervently pray that we may be again united in the bonds of brotherly love and charity; and hereafter respond in your own language, "All is well."

CALIFORNIA.

The thirteenth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at San Francisco, October 15, 1866, M. E. JOHN KIRKPATRICK, Grand High Priest, presiding. The subordinate Chapters within this jurisdiction number thirty-four. All made returns, and thirty were represented. The address of the Grand High Priest, although brief, exhibits the craft in a harmonious and prosperous condition.

In allusion to our late national troubles, he says :

"No longer are our brethren arrayed in deadly strife against each other. The sword has been superseded for the sickle, and the plow, instead of the horse's hoof, now turns up the ground. The bitter animosities of the past are disappearing, never, it is hoped, to be again revived ; and peace and tranquility once more prevail in our beloved country. No where than in our own State are hymns of praise more due the Creator for the many favors bestowed. Our fields teem with grain, our mines yield abundantly, and, in all the various pursuits of life, the industrious and active are attended with success."

He feelingly alludes to the death of several worthy companions, among whose names is that of Comp. PHILIP W. SHEPHERD, who was long Grand Treasurer.

Comp. L. C. OWEN, Grand Secretary, presented a brief but well written report on foreign correspondence. After enumerating the several Grand Chapters whose proceedings had been received, he says :

"It will be seen that among them are embraced a number from which we have long been separated, though not estranged, whose advent once more we welcome with a sincere and heartfelt joy, fervently praying that

nothing may ever again occur to disturb the union now restored, and that the memory of the past may be obliterated in the happy future to be enjoyed by all parts of our beloved country."

We regret that our proceedings were not embraced in the number of those whose advent he hails with so hearty a welcome, and we assure our companion that we fully reciprocate his prayer that a free, full and fraternal interchange of masonic greetings may never again be interrupted.

From one of the best prepared tables of statistics coming to our notice, we find reported 162 exaltations, and 1358 Royal Arch Masons, as we suppose, members. Comp. CHARLES MARSH, Nevada, M. E. G. H. Priest; LAWRENCE C. OWEN, San Francisco, R. E. Grand Secretary.

CANADA.

The ninth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at St. Catherines, on the second Tuesday of August, 1866, M. E. Comp. W. MERCER WILSON, as Grand Z., presiding.

Comp. T. DOUGLAS HARRINGTON, Grand Z, was unable to attend the convocation, and Comp. WILSON read the address, from which we extract his expression of regret and the cause of his absence :

"I regret exceedingly that I am not able to meet you this year in convocation. It is a great disappointment to me that I am prevented forming one of a band of companions who can seldom arrange to meet and

exchange their hearty congratulations, except at our annual assemblages to which I have always looked with much true anticipatory pleasure. But the termination of parliament, and important measures passed by the legislature at once coming into effect, render it impossible for me to absent myself from my duty as a public officer."

Of the 24 chartered Chapters on their roll, 19 were represented, besides two U. D. They return 109 registrations; 847 members; and \$611.00 for dues. A new constitution, which we do not find in the proceedings, had been printed and distributed, which is "a cause of congratulation to all."

On the subject of uniformity of work, he says: "As regards the Royal Arch *work*, it would be well if it were exemplified during this convocation, inasmuch as I discover that it is not even yet generally understood and adopted. It is of importance that our subordinate Chapters should no longer be left to their own resources, but that all should work alike. It is a matter for regret that the income of the Grand Chapter will not bear the payment for a grand lecturer." We sincerely trust that our companions in that jurisdiction will soon be able to so fill their treasury as to afford not only one, but so many grand lecturers as shall make them "of one mind and of one voice;" and as a great first step in that direction, we heartily indorse the suggestion of the following paragraph from the address of Comp. HARRINGTON, relative to the formation of a home Grand Chapter:

"The near accomplishment of the confederation of the dominions on this continent of our beloved Queen, God bless her! naturally causes me

to invite your attention to the formation of a "Grand Chapter of British North America," and to suggest that communication be at once entered into with our companions of the maritime provinces on this matter ; and all Chapters hailing from "the old country" should be cordially invited and urged to become members of the confederacy."

Comp. JAMES SEYMOUR presented a well-written report on foreign correspondence, in which he reviews with marked ability and true masonic courtesy, the proceedings of twenty-four Grand Chapters, including those of England, Scotland, the General Grand Chapter, and our own.

He says of the address of Comp. HOLBROOK, M. E. G. High Priest, "it was fraternal in sentiment and thoroughly practical in its application;" notices his recommendation of adopting some particular manual, and the mode of communicating the Past and M. E. Masters' degrees, and the action of the Grand Chapter on the same.

He speaks of our report on foreign correspondence in terms of commendation.

In commenting upon the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter of the United States, its powers and so forth, Comp. SEYMOUR very frankly, courteously, and to our ideas, very sensibly, concludes as follows :

"If necessity exists for a General Grand Chapter—and that is the question—we think these powers are not calculated to infringe subordinate rights ; but on the contrary, they seem indispensable to secure that harmony and discipline which is essentially required in all masonic assemblies. It may be true, as objected by those who regard the body

as useless, that its machinery is too cumbrous, and that too much legislation is indulged in; but these objections are capable of remedy, and if any good can be extracted from the organization, it is the duty of those Grand Chapters who complain, to apply the cure and render the supreme head thoroughly effective. We confess, from careful examination of its constitution and proceedings, that we are not strongly prepossessed in its favor; and when we find that it has so far failed to secure *uniformity in work* — which is the main feature that should commend it to support — we are still less enamored with its efficacy. Sixty years of existence ought to have produced more satisfactory results than those claimed by its best friends; and if the future is not brighter with promise than the past, our candid opinion is, that the collapse of the General Grand Chapter would be an event that would do more good to Royal Arch Masonry than its continued existence could possibly secure. In thus placing our views on record concerning this American bone of contention — and such it really appears to be — we do so on broad masonic grounds, based on the well-being of the royal craft throughout the continent, rather than from any desire to obtrude our opinions or meddle with what might otherwise be regarded as a domestic or family quarrel. In the latter sense it is their own affair, and having drawn ‘an elephant,’ they should find some practical use for it; but in the former, its utility is open to fair outside criticism, and in this spirit we cannot do otherwise than pronounce against the concern.”

M. E. Comp. T. DOUGLAS HARINGTON, Ottawa, as Grand Z, and R. E. THOMAS BIRD HARRIS, Hamilton, as Grand Scribe E, were both reelected.

CONNECTICUT.

This Grand Chapter was convened on the 8th of May, 1866. Twenty-two out of twenty-nine subordinate Chapters were reported as represented.

The address of M. E. LUKE A. LOCKWOOD, Grand High Priest, is replete with sound sense, good practical advice, and clear ideas, upon the several subjects to which he alludes.

His entire address deserves to be read and remembered by every Mason from an Entered Apprentice to a Royal Arch Mason, and would our limits allow we would present it in full to our readers ; but lest we might be judged tedious we confine our extracts to the following paragraphs. After reporting his official acts within his jurisdiction he mentions having attended, with other Grand officers, the meeting of the General Grand Chapter, at its sessions in Columbus, in Sept., 1865, and comments upon its proceedings and future prospects as follows :

“No business of special importance was transacted at either session. It was hoped that the session would have witnessed the re-union of beloved companions from every portion of our country, who have been so long separated by political causes beyond their control. But unfortunately this pleasure was greatly abridged, the unsettled state of affairs at home, and want of traveling facilities, preventing many from being with us to exchange fraternal greetings. There seemed to be a desire among many of the members of the General Grand Chapter, and resolutions were offered, to amend the constitution of that body and enlarge its powers.

It is now, in my judgment, possessed of as great power as is conducive to the best interest or compatible with the peace and harmony of capitular masonry. As an advisory body, in its relation to State Grand Chapters, being composed of the most erudite and experienced scholars and workmen of the country, its value can be made inestimable. In calling triennially around one common altar, in as it were a family circle,

the representatives of every part of our common country, it tends to cheer and encourage noble efforts for the attainment of masonic knowledge, to unite companions in more intimate and tender sympathies, and to cause them to more practically realize our common bond of brotherhood.

Its power of formation and discipline of subordinate chapters, in new States and Territories, and beyond the jurisdiction of State Grand Chapters, prevent irregularity and confusion. The exercise, however, of discipline upon State Grand Chapters, will never, in my opinion, be tolerated by them. They are now full grown "sons of light," and will no longer submit to even parental correction, except in the way of advice, admonition and reproof. To this latter mode of correction the State Grand Chapters will not only not object, but will pay the most profound respect, weighing well the counsel and heeding diligently the kindly admonition.

While the General Grand Chapter shall confine itself to the proper exercise of the powers and privileges to which I have alluded, the Grand Chapter of Connecticut will be the last to withhold respect for its authority, or prayer for its long and prosperous career. I trust that at the next regular triennial convocation, to be held at St. Louis, every Grand Chapter will be represented, and that all may enjoy the pleasure and the profit of a happy reunion."

Of the work approved by the Grand Chapter of Connecticut and the beautiful symbolism of masonry he thus forcibly and impressively says :

"In regard to the work approved by our Grand Chapter, I can speak only in the words of highest commendation,— especially so in respect to the Royal Arch work. This degree is the summit of ancient masonry, and completes the symbolism of ancient craft-masonry. Masonry cannot justly be called a progressive science, in the modern use of this term ; but the knowledge of masonry may be, nay should be, progressive. Like nature, it possesses many external beauties, evident to, and admired by, the most thoughtless observer ; while an inexhaustible profusion of

others lie concealed in its bosom, as a reward for the earnest and diligent inquirer. Like nature, also, its symbolism is perfect, and the noblest discoveries of science, throwing more light upon it, reveal hitherto undiscovered beauties, which constantly challenge our admiration and surprise. No man was ever the master of masonry,—no man ever can be. Life is too short, human intellect too feeble, to comprehend it, in all its full and just proportions. The Masonic Temple is so vast, the human vision so limited, that we can at most see but a small part of one of its magnificent Corinthian columns.

We are too apt, my companions, to use masonic language without knowing or appreciating its true import; the ear is pleased with the sound, but the heart, alas! how often, fails to vibrate to the truth, smothered instead of clothed by the words. The student of masonry labors under the disadvantage of the secrecy of its ritualistic symbolism. This must be so, and it is not surprising that discrepancies in the traditional language of our ritualism should lead to loss, confusion, and perversion of symbolism. The brightest intellects are often clouded by improperly organized bodies through which they are compelled to act.

The work of this Grand Chapter is correct in its symbolism, and in its statements of historical, geographical and traditional facts, and consistent with the whole body of masonry. It is free from anachronisms, and has no ceremony without its proper symbolic teaching. The Royal Arch degree has been too little studied; it has, I fear, been too often regarded as an ornamental or amusing appendage to masonry. But can a thoughtful Mason feel that his masonic character has attained its full measure of excellence without a knowledge of the sacred truths so beautifully and impressively taught in its solemn ceremonies? From the first step in masonry to the last, the sublime central truth of the Holy Royal Arch is clearly shadowed forth in the most beautiful rituals. The Master Mason often closes his career in masonry with receiving a mere substitute, an unmeaning expression, for that for which he has so diligently and heroically labored. He is then furnished with but a lantern, until he beholds, in the Royal Arch, the full effulgence of the Source of Light.

How beautifully are we here taught the course of human life!—how

we must struggle for the attainment of truth, braving every danger, enduring every hardship, and overcoming every obstacle, and upon what we must rely for success in our perilous journey from the captivity of sin to the rebuilding of our second Temple of Holiness to the Lord. And when our long and toilsome journey is over, and we have passed through the vails of this earthly tabernacle, how amply are we rewarded by the gift of knowledge of Divine Truth."

He refers to the use of the Lord's Prayer in Chapter devotions in the following beautiful language :

"I desire to call attention to what appears to many, even intelligent Masons, as a glaring inconsistency in capitular masonry. I refer to the use of the Lord's Prayer at Chapter devotions,—a prayer which sums up, in a few sentences, the whole spiritual and physical wants of man,—one in which all, Jew or Gentile, can unite, and which is admirably adapted for concerts of prayer among brethren. It is objected that this prayer was given long after the traditional founding of the degree, and that therefore it is a comparatively modern innovation. This, however, is a great mistake. When Christ was asked by his disciples to teach them how to pray, instead of giving them something new, he merely repeated a part of the ritual of the temple worship. The curious will find a translation of the ritual alluded to, in 'Horne's Introduction to the Scriptures,' p. 296 ; and the language is almost identical."

On the subject of uniformity of work he thus sensibly remarks :

"We hear much about uniformity of work, and efforts have been made in many Grand Bodies to legislate particular rituals upon subordinates. All edicts are impotent to effect the object proposed. Masons will not do work which they do not love. The sword never yet changed belief or created affection. True, uniformity is very desirable ; but this consists not so much in uniformity of language,—the mere vehicle of ideas,—as in uniformity of symbolism, of doctrine, and of principles. Do we not too often quibble about words and forget teachings, grasp at forms and

neglect substance, and sometimes destroy charity, the greatest of all virtues, in stickling for mere words? Of course there are essentials, which are landmarks, and which must be preserved, in all languages and among all Masons, to secure the universality, nay more, the existence of masonry. Yet there are many non-essentials, which are the mere staging for the erection of the Royal Arch, and form no part whatever of that beautiful support. Now some latitude in the use of this scaffolding must be permitted, so long as the arch is constructed agreeably to the design laid down upon the trestle-board, and all attempts to restrict this discretion of masonic instructors, only tend to cramp the intellect and draw the attention to words instead of ideas. Show a zealous and intelligent Mason 'good work,' becoming to the dignity and elevating to the standard of manhood,—'true work,' consistent with tradition, and history,—and 'square work,' agreeing with the ancient landmarks of masonry and the whole system of its sublime symbolism,—and you will need no edict to compel him to perform it,—his judgment will approve it, and his affections will cluster around it. Let me not be misunderstood. The essentials and landmarks of Royal Arch Masonry must be preserved, and this Grand Body is their lawful, authorized and competent conservator, within this jurisdiction."

Concerning excessive legislation by masonic bodies he very pertinently remarks:

"Excessive legislation is a common and growing evil of the age. It has entered masonic grand bodies,—it is full time our attention should be directed to the crying evil. The ancient landmarks are the axiomatic, fundamental principles of our jurisprudence. They are plain and concise, easily comprehended, and readily applied. They cover, also, the whole essential ground of masonry, and a thorough knowledge of them, and a fair acquaintance with the design of our institution, are sure guides to the solution of almost if not all questions which may arise. Laws should be few, easily understood, and brought home to the knowledge of all their subjects. I fear the legal maxim, 'ignorance of the law excuses no one,' however expedient it may be in civil governments, is hardly applicable to masonry of the present day. Each session seems to strive to

invent new laws and regulations, unmindful or ignorant of what the law really is ; and thus we have rules and edicts innumerable, scattered over thousands of pages of proceedings, and often entirely inconsistent with themselves and with each other ; so that he who reads the most of them will know the least of masonic jurisprudence. Let there be as little legislation over subordinates as is compatible with general good order, and leave to them the management of the rest, so long as they violate no ancient landmark. The officers and members of the subordinates will not be found wanting.* Common sense, good judgment, charitable dispositions, and love for our ancient order, are not the exclusive prerogatives of grand officers or grand bodies, but the common inheritance of all good and true Masons."

The report on foreign correspondence was presented by our venerable brother and companion, WM. STORER, who says in conclusion, that it is his fifteenth annual report. Comp. STORER complains, and very justly too, that the proceedings of but nine State Grand Chapters had been received. It seems that ours were among the missing, which we exceedingly regret and for which we cannot rationally account unless the Grand Secretary fails in his duty.

We can assure our excellent Comp. STORER, and all other committees on foreign correspondence who fail to acknowledge the receipt of our proceedings, that they are regularly sent to every Grand Chapter through their Grand Secretaries, and if they fail to reach the committees on correspondence we must attribute the failure to neglect of their Grand Secretaries.

This neglect may arise from misapprehension of Grand Secretaries supposing that in all cases a copy is also sent

to the chairman of the correspondence committee, whereas we have usually sent but one copy to each Grand Chapter, and that to the address of the Grand Secretary.

Companion STORER's former character as an able, candid and impartial masonic writer is fully sustained in his late report. He is judicious and exhibits evidence of good taste in his extracts from addresses of Grand High Priests and correspondence committees. We regret, however, exceedingly to find his comments on proceedings of other Grand Chapters very limited, as his long experience, clear conceptions, correct taste and sound judgment would give his opinion great weight upon any question of a masonic character, whether in theory or practice.

From the Grand Secretary's report we find that 22 Chapters returned 313 exaltations. Dues received \$644, and for one dispensation, \$90.00. Number of members are nowhere given. We are perhaps peculiar in favoring full statistics and we regret that all Grand Secretaries do not furnish sufficient data, when it can so readily be done, for Grand Chapters comparing and judging of each others prosperity and increase.

Comp. LUKE A. LOCKWOOD, Greenwich, was reelected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. JOHN W. PAUL, Waterbury, was elected E. Grand Secretary.

ILLINOIS.

The Grand Chapter of this State convened in Chicago

Oct. 5, 1866. The Grand High Priest and his Deputy each made an address, devoted mainly to a statement of their official doings during the year. Harmony prevails throughout the jurisdiction, and twelve hundred exaltations are reported for the masonic year. The report of the committee on foreign correspondence, by HARMON G. REYNOLDS, E. Grand Secretary, consists chiefly of extracts from addresses of Grand High Priests of states in correspondence with that Grand Chapter. The proceedings of our body are acknowledged and briefly noticed.

M. E. ORLIN H. MINER, Springfield, was elected Grand High Priest and E. HARMON G. REYNOLDS, Springfield, was reelected Grand Secretary.

INDIANA.

We have the printed proceedings of this Grand Chapter at their Annual Convocation in Indianapolis, May 23, 1866. The royal art seems to be in a flourishing condition in that jurisdiction. The M. E. Grand High Priest reports having attended the triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter at Columbus, Ohio, Sept. 1865, and all he can say in commendation of that grand body or of its proceedings is the cordial greetings from eminent and worthy masons from different sections of the country, the bountiful grand banquet given by noble and magnanimous sir knights and companions of Ohio, and

having a good time generally, which, compared with the published proceedings of that convocation, seem a pretty correct analysis of the important matters attended to. The proceedings of our grand body receive the attention of the committee on foreign correspondence in terms of commendation.

Forty-seven of fifty-one chartered chapters return 1923 members and 353 exaltations. Dues paid, \$1919.00.

The Grand Chapter of Indiana decided on an appeal from the decision of the Grand High Priest, that the use of substitutes in the exaltation of candidates is proper and right, sustaining the decision of the Grand High Priest, which in our humble opinion was decidedly wrong notwithstanding the decision of our Grand Chapter and the practice in this jurisdiction to the contrary. In our estimation the practice is as improper and farcical as the installation of officers of masonic bodies by proxy.

M. E. THOMAS NEWBY, Cambridge City, was elected Grand High Priest and E. W. HACKER, Indianapolis, was reelected Grand Secretary.

IOWA.

The M. E. Grand Chapter of Iowa convened in Davenport, June 1, 1866. The Grand Master's address is excellent, and the report of the committee on foreign correspondence, although lengthy, is one of the best and most interesting we have ever seen, but we think might

have been improved by condensation. New Hampshire receives a due share of attention in this able document.

Twenty-eight chapters return 960 members, 190 exaltations and \$847.00 dues received.

M. E. H. H. HEMENWAY, Lansing, was elected Grand High Priest and E. W. B. LANGRIDGE, Muscatine, was reelected Grand Secretary.

KANSAS.

This Grand Chapter held its first annual convocation in the city of Topeka, Oct. 18, 1866. We hail her as a bright star in the galaxy of Grand Chapters.

The M. E. Grand High Priest detailed his official doings in a well written and eloquent address. From the address we have the pleasure of quoting the following eloquent paragraph, believing it will be read and its sentiments duly appreciated by the sincere and devout Mason :

“ It was beautifully said by the poet Wordsworth :

“ Dust as we are, the immortal spirit grows,
Like harmony in music ; there is a dark
Inscrutable workmanship, that reconciles
Discordant elements, makes them cling together
In one society.”

Bound together by this tie, we freely grasp the hand of our country's foe, though fresh from the ensanguined field -- of Christian, of Moham-medan, of Jew, of him who falls beneath the wheels of ignorance -- a martyr to his faith -- we ask not whence he came, or what his kindred, or his faith ; enough to know that he was formed by God Almighty's

hand, and meets us with the grip of brotherhood. 'Tis this, and this alone, that has sustained our order through tumultuous ages. Suppose the Christian world should say no Jew shall pass our threshold, though it be the institution of their fathers; although it was Israel's king who laid the corner-stone of that great temple we commemorate. Suppose the Jew should say to Christian followers, we hold no trust in common with your faith; you therefore shall not enter where our fathers worshiped. Suppose republicans should say no monarch or the subject of a king shall come among us; we here eschew all brotherhood with Solomon, or him of Tyre; we strike from our rolls the venerable name of Sir Christopher Wren. Or should the Masons of imperial countries say to us, you are demagogues; we hold with you no converse. Where then would be our long remembered line? Three thousand years of lineage would then be buried in oblivion. In the nineteenth century masonry like every other society that has lived and died amid the world's convulsions, would fly into a thousand fragments, like sparks from the blacksmith's anvil; each peculiar dogma would start a lodge or chapter of its own; its identity would cease amid contending factions, and you would witness the mournful ceremony of standing around the grave of masonry, while you heard the cold clods rattle on its coffin. Then stand aloof from all contending factions, whether sectional or national; world-wide or intestine; let all the elements of war and conflict rage; let the storm-cloud burst in all its fury and in all its horrors; mingle with them as you may, represent as you will, as men have done since the world began, all the diversity of sentiment, of feeling, or of prejudice that constitute the fearful element of strife; but in the name of heaven, and for the sake of masonry, mingle not the mystic band as such in this contending jar. If you call into requisition your masonic ties, let it be to extend a helping hand to a fallen or a yielding foe; to soften war's asperities; to soothe the widow and the orphan; the houseless and the helpless; seek not, except as men, to still the storm of factions for the very element of which your body is composed compose the elements of strife; lend all your energies to elevate the moral, the social, and the intellectual condition of your race; reach forth your helping hand to raise the orphan and destitute from low estate, and place them on the

road to education and respectability; let the four cardinal virtues be your guide-post; follow them as faithfully as the devotees pursued the star of Bethlehem. Then will our fraternity live imperishable, and stand a beacon-light to all good men for ages upon ages yet to come; and that it may be so, may the God of our fathers in His infinite mercy decree. Amen."

We, from the depth of our heart, respond, "So mote it be."

The report of the committee on foreign correspondence though concise, is able and courteous, and we hope that another year they will be able to include New Hampshire in their list of correspondents. Three subordinate chapters were represented. Members, 206; exaltations, 34; dues, \$181.58.

M. E. R. REES, Leavenworth, was reelected Grand High Priest and E. E. T. CARR, Leavenworth, Grand Secretary.

KENTUCKY.

This Grand Chapter held its annual convocation in Louisville, Oct. 15, 1866, and the subordinate chapters of that jurisdiction were well represented. The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest was well worded and to the point. The report on foreign correspondence, by Comp. L. A. GRAHAM, reviews the proceedings of nineteen grand chapters, in which list New Hampshire is included, in less than seven pages. Protracted sickness of Comp. GRAHAM's family and father is sufficient

apology for the brevity of his report. Members, 2645; exaltations, 620; dues, \$2876.

M. E. JOSEPH H. BRANHAM, Owensboro', was elected Grand High Priest, and E. PHILIP SWIGERT was reelected Grand Secretary.

LOUISIANA.

Your committee have received the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Louisiana for 1866 and 1867. At the latter convocation ten chartered chapters were represented, and six under dispensation. The M. E. Grand High Priest delivered a short address in which he congratulates his companions that during the past year nothing has occurred to mar the peaceful work of Royal Arch Masonry in that State. The treasurer reports the funds of the Grand Chapter in his hands as \$1,933.20. The committee on foreign correspondence, by Comp. H. R. SWASEY, presented an excellent report, briefly and courteously reviewing the proceedings of twenty - two Grand Chapters, the receipt of which they acknowledged, — our own among the number. Comp. SWASEY in reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of New Jersey, and commenting on the report on foreign correspondence, presented by Comp. THOMAS J. CORSON, gently and very justly rebukes some of our masonic writers, more pointedly aimed at Comp. CORSON. He says:

"The companion has great ability as a masonic writer; he seems intuitively to make the most judicious and interesting masonic selections, and would it were possible to see but blanks where the page is soiled with political discussions, the report would, indeed, be perfect. We hope and pray that the time may soon arrive when the subject of war, carnage and politics will be sought for in vain in our masonic proceedings."

We have been pained to meet with masonic addresses and reports teeming with allusions to the *horrible internecine war, blood and carnage, death and destruction*, and that too from some of our most zealous and able masonic writers. Our ideas are that no matter of a political character, or connected with or growing out of politics should be introduced, or in the remotest manner alluded to in any masonic body or masonic production. But such is the temperament and constitution of some of our worthy and well meaning brethren and companions, as to suffer their political zeal to betray them into indiscretion, and we like to see such gently reminded of their imprudence.

Comp. H. P. BUCKLEY, New Orleans, was elected Grand High Priest and JAMES C. BATCHELOR, New Orleans, was elected Grand Secretary.

MAINE.

We have perused the proceedings of this Grand Chapter with great pleasure and we hope not without some profit. The pamphlet before us furnishes conclusive evidence that our Maine companions, in masonry at

least, are actuated by the only true principle, "that whatever is worth doing at all is worth well doing," a principle that holds good not only in masonry, but in all business transactions and every avocation in life.

The Grand Chapter of Maine had within its jurisdiction at its annual convocation in May, 1866, nineteen chartered chapters, and two working under dispensation, all making returns and paying dues, and all save one represented in grand convocation.

An abstract of returns presents the following facts: Twenty-one chapters, dues, \$833; members, 1427; non-affiliated, 100; exalted, 334; rejected, 19; dimitted, 8; died, 14.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. A. J. FULLER, is a straight-forward, business-like document, principally detailing his official labors during the year. He calls the attention of his Grand Chapter to the death of three worthy companions, P. G. H. Priest, J. C. HUMPHREYS, Comp. JOSEPH COVELL and P. G. H. Priest, JAMES C. CHURCHILL, and pays a handsome tribute of respect to the memory of each. A memorial page is inscribed to each in the proceedings. From that of Comp. CHURCHILL we learn that he was born in New Market, N. H., April 24, 1787.

After detailing his masonic labors the G. H. P. speaks of the progress of Royal Arch Masonry in the jurisdiction, as follows:

"Nearly all the chapters are doing well; some are not doing what they ought to do, owing to want of energy on the part of officers in some cases, in others to want of interest on the part of the members; this can soon be remedied by the necessary precaution at annual meetings."

The report on foreign correspondence, by a committee of whom Comp. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND is chairman, is an able, candid, independent, but courteous, review of the proceedings of twenty - three Grand Chapters, including the General Grand Chapter and our own. The committee detail at considerable length, and particularity the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, at its triennial session in 1865, and in conclusion express the same views in relation to the right to withdraw from its jurisdiction that we have ever entertained. The committee say :

"The General Grand Chapter having met, and determined to continue its existence, we are bound by our obligations to recognize it, and we believe it is now stronger than it has been for years before.

We do not argue its usefulness; that question is not open to us, except with a view of instructing our own representatives.

There has been one argument used against it, which is unworthy a Royal Arch Mason, and which we hope never to see urged again. It has been said, that only those who hold the offices in it, or expect to do so, favor it. Now men are apt to judge others by themselves; and we have a right to suspect that those who use this argument, are opposed to the General Grand Chapter, because they do *not* expect to hold office in it!"

In their review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Alabama and report on foreign correspondence

by Comp. DANIEL SAYRE, the committee give him a mild hint of his indiscretion, as follows :

“ He regrets, as we do, that there should be any allusions in some of the proceedings to the issues of the war, now that it has closed. All must admit that when our duties as *citizens* conflict with our duties as *Masons*, the former must prevail. But when that conflict has terminated, it is proper, it is right, it is masonic, that we should, in renewing our masonic rights and duties, forget that any conflict among us, *as citizens*, ever existed. And we regret that Companion SAYRE should deem it necessary to make so many and such allusions as he has, to what he says he desires to be forgotten as soon as possible.”

The committee allude to the standard by which Comp. SAYRE intends to try his northern brethren and companions, quote his language, and very properly and spiritedly reply as follows. Comp. SAYRE says :

“ We must know what their Grand High Priests have said about us in their annual addresses ; what resolutions they have passed ; and how they have talked concerning us in their reports on foreign correspondence.”

The committee reply :

“ We do not fear the test, so far as relates to our acts, *as Masons*, towards our brethren of the south. But if our companion holds that we should perform our duties as *Masons*, even at the expense of the violation of our duties as *citizens*, he will undoubtedly find that we have not come to his standard. That is not masonry, ‘ as we understand it.’ But if in the excess of our zeal to perform our duties as citizens, we, both of the north and the south, have said some things, as Masons, which had better been left unsaid, let him that is without sin cast the first stone. *That* right we do not claim, nor do we believe that Companion SAYRE will claim it.”

Of our proceedings they speak briefly but approvingly.

Comp. JOSIAH H. DRUMMOND, Portland, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. IRA BERRY, Portland, E. Grand Secretary.

MARYLAND AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in Baltimore, Nov. 12, 1866. All the chapters but one represented. The address of M. E. Comp. JAMES G. SMITH, Grand High Priest, is mostly confined to a detail of his official acts, which evince an able, faithful and zealous discharge of the important and responsible duties of his office.

He announced to his Grand Chapter the melancholly death of their beloved R. E. Companion WILLIAM G. PARKHURST, who was accidentally drowned on the 10th of October preceeding, by slipping from a wharf, in Washington city, into a watery grave. After announcing the fact of his death the Grand High Priest adds as follows :

“As soon as it was made known to the M. W. Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia. (Bro. GEO. C. WHITING,) that he was missing, and the supposition as to the fate which had befallen him, he, after consultation with other members of the Grand Lodge, promptly offered a reward of \$500 for information as to his fate and the recovery of his body, if dead ; and on Friday morning, about eleven o'clock, the body was found, and at an inquest held, a verdict was rendered that he came to his death by accident. Every article of value that he was known to have about him was upon the body.

As soon as the sad occurrence was made known to me, I ordered every effort to be made to assemble the Grand Chapter to attend the funeral, which was one of the largest masonic funeral processions ever witnessed in the city of Washington.

At the time of his death, Companion PARKHURST was Sr. Grand Warden of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, Grand King of this Grand Chapter, Captain General of Columbia Commandery, W. Master of Harmony Lodge, No. 17, Past High Priest and Treasurer of Washington Chapter, No. 16, and for two years past chairman of the committee on foreign correspondence of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia, and in every capacity a zealous, faithful, and competent craftsman—in life beloved and in death lamented by all. A committee has been appointed to prepare testimonial resolutions in relation to our bereavement which will be reported at a proper time."

Comp. E. L. STEVENS for the committee on correspondence presented an able and interesting report, reviewing the proceedings of twenty Grand Chapters with a degree of frankness and independence, yet in a spirit of conciliation, masonic courtesy, fraternal affection, and brotherly kindness, characteristic of a clear head, pure mind, and a warm heart.

In alluding to the report of Comp. SAYRE, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of Alabama, Comp. STEVENS writes :

Comp. SAYRE is not willing, as we gather from his closing remarks, to judge us in this northern latitude by *present acts and professions* ; he proposes, before he takes us into full fellowship, to see what our Grand High Priests have said of our southern brethren the past four years ; what resolutions we have passed, and what has been the tenor of our reports on correspondence towards them, &c. These he graciously informs us 'are the touchstones by which we must be tried ;' 'the criteria by

which we must be judged;' 'the fire through which we must pass.'

If the account is to be settled in this way, it may be well to look at the record, or the ledger, upon the other side, before we undertake to strike a balance.

We regret to see this old feeling of bitterness and want of confidence as exhibited in particular portions of this report. It has many excellencies which we cannot too highly commend. A little more masonic charity and fraternal confidence and kindness toward those whom he proposes to place on probation for a season, would add greatly to its value as a masonic document."

The indiscretion into which Comp. SAYRE suffered his zeal to betray him, contrasts strangely with the sentiment expressed in two resolutions adopted by his Grand Chapter at the same convocation to which he made his report, which are as follows ;

"Resolved, That this Grand Chapter heartily reciprocates the expression of brotherly love and kindness set forth in the proceedings of various Grand Chapters North, as we learn from the committee on foreign correspondence.

"Resolved, That it is the sincere desire of this grand body to cultivate the feelings of brotherly love and charity toward our companions where-soever dispersed."

To the sentiment embraced in these resolutions we are sure no good Mason will withhold a hearty assent. Our proceedings for 1865 are acknowledged, reviewed briefly and commented on favorably.

Returns of eleven chartered chapters and one U. D. show members, 638 ; exaltations, 285.

Comp. JAMES G. SMITH, Washington, M. E. Grand

High Priest, and Comp. W. MORRIS SMITH, Washington, R. E. Grand Secretary.

MASSACHUSETTS.

The pamphlet before us contains the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts as follows :

Stated convocation, Dec. 12, 1865; special do., Jan. 19, 1866; stated do., March 13, 1866; stated do., June 12, 1866; annual do., Sept. 11, 1866, and stated do., Dec. 11, 1866.

We find no address of Grand High Priest and nothing embraced in the proceedings beyond matters of ordinary legislation for the government of the craft in that jurisdiction.

There is a report on foreign correspondence by Comp. JAMES KIMBALL covering thirty-two pages, being almost entirely and exclusively composed of interesting extracts from addresses of Grand High Priests and reports of committees on foreign correspondence of other Grand Chapters, but the writer makes no comments nor expresses any opinion upon any matters therein contained. We notice an omission peculiar to the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts in not numbering their subordinate chapters. One page in the pamphlet headed, "recapitulation," gives the name of chapter, when chartered, number exalted, and number of members, but neither column of which is footed. We notice one other peculiarity and one that

strikes us as singular as peculiar: On page 56 of the pamphlet before us is a list headed, "Permanent Members of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts." Here follow lists of P. G. H. P., P. D. G. H. P., P. G. Kings and P. G. Scribes, with dates of their holding office, numbering in all 157, ninety-seven of whom are marked as deceased, leaving sixty only as living. Now we cannot conceive how a man can retain membership of any earthly society for years after his decease. It looks to us like what in common parlance is called an "Irish bull." We would suggest to their Grand Secretary to head the list hereafter with, "Past Grand Officers," &c., instead of "*Permanent Members*," &c.

One other singular omission we noticed. Having carefully examined the proceedings we fail to find that the report on foreign correspondence was presented to, or authorized by the Grand Chapter or alluded to in the proceedings.

M. . E. . RICHARD BRIGGS, Grand High Priest, and E. . THOMAS WATERMAN, Grand Secretary. We happened to know that Comp. WATERMAN resides in Boston, but the proceedings fail to give the residence of any elective grand officer.

MICHIGAN.

The Grand Chapter of Michigan held its seventeenth annual convocation in Detroit, commencing Jan. 8, 1866, and closing on the 10th.

It had then within its jurisdiction thirty-eight chartered chapters and three U. D., and what is singular every chapter except one U. D. were reported by the committee on credentials as being represented in Grand Chapter, and as further evidence of the interest manifested in capitular masonry in that jurisdiction, we find by an abstract of returns that every chapter made return and that all except two returned more or less exaltations, varying from three, the smallest number, to thirty-six, the largest. Their returns show in the aggregate 2595 members, 612 exaltations, 90 rejections and \$2550.50 amount of dues, including \$300 received for new charters.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. EBENEZER SPRAGUE, is a well-written, straight-forward and business-like document, principally confined to matters local, and giving an account of his stewardship. He alludes to the appointment of a committee by the General Grand Chapter in 1859, of which that profound masonic scholar and skillful craftsman, ALBERT G. MACKEY, M. E. G. Grand High Priest, was chairman, to report a system of lectures and work for the capitular degrees, and of what was expected to be the result of the labors of so able a committee, and says :

“The triennial convocation of the General Grand Chapter, to which that committee should have reported a system of lectures and work for the capitular degrees, was held in the city of Columbus, in September last, but no report was presented on lectures and work; and from the entire want of interest manifested upon that subject during the session

of the General Grand Chapter, I think it time to abandon the idea of being furnished with a uniform system of work from that source.

I would, therefore, recommend that a strict conformity with the lectures and work, as now taught and promulgated in this jurisdiction, be strictly enjoined upon all of the subordinate chapters of this jurisdiction — not that I am aware of there being any willful want of uniformity in their work, but that perfect harmony may prevail throughout our entire jurisdiction, and not a sound of discord heard to mar the harmony among the workmen."

Of the condition and progress of the royal craft in his jurisdiction, he gives the following flattering account :

"So far as I am informed, peace, friendship and brotherly love prevail throughout our borders. The different chapters in this jurisdiction have, during the past year, labored earnestly and harmoniously, and have discovered and brought many specimens of great worth and usefulness, which will add wisdom, strength and beauty to our masonic temple."

The report on foreign correspondence, by a committee of which their Grand Secretary, E. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON was chairman, is an able, impartial, courteous and fraternal review of the proceedings of thirteen Grand Chapters, and, taken as a whole, is one of the best that has come under our notice, not so much for original thoughts, and freely commenting upon thoughts of others, as for good judgment in selecting what is beautiful, eloquent, interesting and useful to the craft in general.

In their introduction the committee give utterance to the following eloquent and fraternal sentiments :

"Masonry North, as appears by the uniform tenor of the proceedings received, moves on in peace, unity and plenty. Great prosperity and en-

ture harmony prevail, without exception ; and the only ground of solicitude arises from too rapid growth.

The Grand Chapters are now rejoicing at the return of peace. All are anxious to aid in bringing about the most fraternal feeling toward those who have gone astray. They exhort us to extend the broad mantle of masonic charity over all the erring, and to welcome home returning companions.

Many of the Grand Chapters attest to the kindly power of the mystic tie in the midst of battle ; and this power, ever active, cannot but materially aid in re-uniting the hearts of our countrymen, that never should have been estranged. This re-union being truly and fully consummated by the aid, in part, of our order, our country — great in the past — becomes greater in the future, — one in heart, one in power, one in its elevating influences, and one in its grand destiny."

We would be glad to make further extracts from this excellent report, but should be at a loss where to commence, and having commenced should be equally at a loss where to end. We cannot, however, dismiss the Grand Chapter of Michigan without an expression of admiration at the neat and workmanlike appearance of their proceedings, and congratulate them on having so able and faithful a Grand Secretary.

Comp. A. BERNARD CUDWORTH, Pontiac, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. J. EASTMAN JOHNSON, Centreville, was reelected R. E. Grand Secretary.

MISSOURI.

Annual convocation of Grand Chapter, May 23, 1866. Twenty-one subordinate chapters were reported as represented at the opening of the Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest being absent the R. E. D. G. H. P. opened the Grand Chapter and delivered a very interesting and instructive address from which we make the following extract, which we fear is applicable to some chapters in this, and all other jurisdictions :

“ The *mysteries* of masonry form the secret of its success and usefulness. To open our doors and invite *all* to come and witness our ceremonies would, as we all know, be destructive of the entire fabric of our noble and ancient order. By and through the mysteries and secret ceremonies of our order, as handed down to us through the centuries that have intervened since the re-building of the second temple (the days of king Solomon), have we been preserved as an institution, shedding light and knowledge, and making our distinguishing characteristics of charity, benevolence and brotherly love known and felt throughout all christendom.

How important, then, is it that *we*, as *Masons*, should fully understand these mysteries — not mechanically, not simply as performers in a pantomime, but *philosophically* — knowing and appreciating, in its full extent, the meaning, purpose and significance of every sign, symbol and ceremony, as taught by our ancient fathers? I am led to these remarks by a limited observation of the work in the several degrees, exemplified in the various chapters in this and other States and Territories, whose communications I have had the pleasure of attending during the past year. It cannot be denied that in some of the subordinate chapters, within our jurisdiction the work in the several degrees is woefully imperfect, and, in some instances, positively erroneous. This, my companions, is an evil, for which we ought, if possible, to provide a remedy. Our work should be so complete as to enable a companion Royal Arch Mason, upon whom the degrees are conferred by us, to work his way into any chapter, where the signs, symbols and ceremonies of ancient craft masonry are preserved. We need competent lecturers, who will undertake to visit the subordinate chapters, spending with each time enough to give full and thorough instruction to all the officers at least.

We all regret deeply that our most esteemed R. E. G. L. has, for some time past, been so much afflicted as to be unable to visit the different (Lodges and) Chapters. To this, and the general decline of interest in masonry which was apparent during the war, I attribute the deficiencies and errors to which I have alluded. The services rendered in years past by our R. E. G. L., and the benefits accruing to the order therefrom, are so well known to all intelligent Masons in the State as to make it unnecessary for me to more than refer to them as evidence of the zeal by which he has been animated, and the thorough knowledge he possesses of all that pertains to our ancient and beloved order. He has spent the best energies of his life in imparting masonic light and knowledge throughout our State, and will yet, afflicted as he is, cheerfully impart such knowledge and give such instruction as to enable some other member of our body to perform the duties which for so many years devolved upon him. Have we not *one* in our body to whom we can, with confidence, intrust this noble undertaking?

Comp. GEORGE F. GOULEY presented an exceedingly interesting and able report on foreign correspondence. His review of the proceedings of twenty-five Grand Chapters, including that of Canada and the General Grand Chapter, is clear and concise, frank and independent, courteous and fraternal, commending and approving where commendation and approval is merited, and rebuking and criticising where rebuke and criticism is deserving. In his introduction he frankly lays down his platform of policy and sticks to it. He says:

"We find Royal Arch Masonry throughout the length and breadth of our land in a prosperous condition, and it is only where we fear that prosperity has led some jurisdictions to daub with untempered mortar, and to build into our arches some stones that more properly belong to the political pavement, that we have ventured to apply the rebuke of

criticism. We have endeavored to give 'unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and unto God the things that are His.' We have entered behind the sacred veils of our sacred tabernacle, and we deem them too pure and holy for the soiling hands of politics or the footprints of a wrangling world, and wherever we have found these signs we have not hesitated to point them out, whether put there by high or low in authority, and if we have spoken frankly it is because we cannot speak otherwise if we would, and we would not when in the performance of a solemn duty."

In his review of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Connecticut for 1865, which we have not seen, he administers to the Grand High Priest and committee on correspondence the following cutting but deserved rebuke. Of the address he says :

"The Grand High Priest's address is well written, and shows feelings of harmony and love, but at the same time it unfortunately opens with a fourth of July appeal to the sectional pride and passions of his hearers; otherwise we might say the address was unexceptionable. Peace is robbed of all its fruits (so far as the heart is concerned) when its glorious peals are mingled with the coarse sounds of exultant victory over those we hope to meet as companions, and between whom memory should hold no ill-starred regrets."

Of the report he says :

"Companion STORER, the able committee on foreign correspondence, rendered a report on twelve Grand Chapters (ours not included), and notwithstanding our reverence for the estimable author, we must be true to our duty of *masonic* criticism, which recognizes nothing but the one unalterable iron law of pure 'masonic duty,' and emphatically condemn the bad taste and worse spirit which prompted his opening remarks. They are 'madly sectional,' and include charges of assassination against those whom the boundless resources of courts-martial have failed to convict of any other charge than 'revolution.' Our companion says

he desires harmony and renewed intercourse, and we believe him when he says so ; but we ask him with what grace would the absent brother return to the homestead and enjoy the fatted calf had the household met him with jeers and insults. The Divine author of the parables puts a fitting rebuke in the father's mouth when replying to the prudent brother who went not away, and we say here, once for all, that Royal Arch Masons, who should know no *exceptions* in their fraternal regards, might do themselves much credit and save others much pain by drinking more copiously of the milk of human kindness, and not quite so freely of the poisoned waters of self-righteousness and bigotry."

If there is anything we dislike to meet in a masonic address or report it is the introduction of politics or any matter of a political character, and we like to see the introduction of such matter, come from whom it may, or from what quarter it may, from the North or South, East or West, properly rebuked, and it is gratifying to us to know that we are not alone in expressing our disapprobation. Sectional wounds can never be healed by continual allusions to our late national trouble, by criminations and recriminations. If kindly feelings, peace and perfect harmony and union is ever to be regained, not only in the masonic family but in our national councils, it must be done by the exercise of a spirit of charity and brotherly kindness ; we must learn to forget and forgive. We must learn to understand, appreciate and practice that beautiful principle taught us in masonry, that if a brother errs we should "whisper good counsel in his ear," and in the most tender manner remind him of his failings and aid in his reformation.

We find on the roll of chapters, compiled from returns of May, 1866, thirty subordinate chapters; chartered at that convocation, 4; exaltations, 183; members, 1145; increase of members from 1865, 311.

M.: E.: SAMUEL RUSSELL, St. Joseph, Grand High Priest, and R.: E.: A. O. SULLIVAN,* St. Louis, Grand Secretary.

MISSISSIPPI, 1866.

The eighteenth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held at Jackson on the 18th and 19th of January, 1866, R.: E.: WILLIAM D. FERRIS, Grand Scribe, acting as Grand High Priest.

It gives us great pleasure to be again in receipt of "Tidings from the South," as embodied in the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Mississippi now before us, being the first communication with the companions of that jurisdiction since 1861.

From the address of M.: E.: GEORGE T. STAINBACK, Grand High Priest, which is confined mainly to local matters, and to his duties and labor for the year, we get a saddening view of the condition of affairs. In speaking of capitular masonry, he says "that owing to the unsettled condition of the country and the almost entire prostration of every essential interest, there has been but

* R.: E.: A. O'SULLIVAN has since deceased, and Comp. GEO. FRANK GOULEY was appointed to fill the vacancy, and we believe has since been elected Grand Secretary.

little done in the way of the spread of the order during my [his] term of office." Harmony and good will prevail among the chapters, however, which is a noteworthy cause of rejoicing.

On the subject of the financial condition of the Grand Chapter he says :

"The Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's reports will inform you of the condition of the finances of the Grand Chapter, which is, indeed, deplorable enough. By a regulation of the Grand Chapter, enacted many years ago, nothing but gold and silver could be received in payment of dues. Two years ago this regulation was for the time changed, and the officers required to receive confederate money, which legislation at that time was wise, and the money so received answered every purpose then; but that cause has gone down, and with it the money, so that the coffers of the Grand Chapter are now empty. In view of these facts, I earnestly recommend that you devise some means to meet the exigencies of the case; and the very reason, companions, that I do not indicate the policy to be pursued in this matter is, that I am utterly at a loss to suggest a remedy. The subordinate chapters are in the same desperate condition. They have received confederate currency in payment for degrees and dues, and are now impoverished, many of them, I fear, to such an extent that they will not be able to meet their liabilities to the Grand Chapter. For all such I bespeak your indulgence."

He reminds the companions of their duty to the many unfortunate ones thrown upon their sympathy and charity and urges a more than ordinary interest in their welfare :

"The terrible war just closed has left the land full of widows and orphans. Those to whom they formerly looked for support now sleep in their bloody graves, and the eyes of their surviving loved ones are longingly turned to you. Shall they look in vain? I know they will not.

To see that they are fed, clothed and educated you will esteem, I am confident, your duty, as well as inestimable privilege. I urge you, companions, and through you the subordinate chapters, to the discharge of this God-like mission."

Of the eighty-nine subordinate chapters, including three U. D., forty-one make no return to the Grand Secretary.

Appended to the proceedings are a series of "permanent rules and regulations," — a masonic guide-board to keep the companions within due bounds, — many of which are of a general character, and would be suggestive and useful everywhere. We would be glad to transfer a portion of them to our own pages, did space allow.

Comp. WILLIAM S. PATTON, Marion, was elected Grand High Priest. and Comp. OSCAR T. KEELER, Columbus, was reelected Grand Secretary.

At the nineteenth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter, held at the city of Jackson, for three days in January, 1867, M. E. J. O. LUSHER, acting as Grand High Priest, there was a most marked and gratifying improvement exhibited in every essential respect.

M. E. Grand High Priest WILLIAM S. PATTON in his opening address thus cheerily greets the companions: "Once more are you permitted to assemble in grand convocation, to humbly bow around the sacred altar, and unite your hearts in humble submission and grateful

thanks for the manifold blessings and comforts which we as a brotherhood have been blessed with during the past masonic year. Here we meet to retrospect the past, joyfully contemplate the present, and act for the future." In the continuation of his address he retrospects the past in the simple sentence, "The tempest of war within our borders is now still;" speaks joyfully of the present in that "the clear heavens are over us again, and the genius of masonry is welcomed throughout the land;" and girds his loins for action, while he prophesies that "Freemasonry has yet a mission, an altar, and a priesthood, in this world, and our own loved country is to demonstrate this truth in a manner worthy of the mystic power on earth."

The address, though confined mainly to matters local, is replete with gems of masonic truth. Comp. PATTON is zealously in earnest for the good of masonry everywhere, and in that jurisdiction in particular, and utters a truth for home use which we take the liberty to here repeat, and hope to see repeated and re-repeated until the evil complained of shall be done away, and brothers and companions are "enalted" mentally instead of technically, — are qualified by proper instruction in the proper place and from the proper source, to show by their works and conversation of the truth which is in them. On the subject of hastily conferring the degrees, and consequent inevitable lack of instruction, he thus pointedly gives his views :

"It has become a custom, and I feel it a duty incumbent upon me to call your attention to the hasty manner in which the several chapter degrees are conferred by many, if not all, the subordinate chapters within this jurisdiction.

It has become an almost, I may say, a universal custom to ballot for the candidate and confer all the degrees upon him without giving the lecture as he advances. This is contrary to the teachings of Royal Arch Masonry, and should not be tolerated by the Grand Chapter. I would recommend that you make it obligatory on subordinate chapters, before the admission of candidates, to have them proficient in the preceeding degree before another is conferred. To the want of this principle or knowledge is chargeable the great dereliction of our subordinates. It is not enough for the companion to know that he has had the degree legally conferred, but he must know the several duties required of him by these degrees; and how shall he know them unless he is taught? And who shall teach him but the chapter whose care he is under? How shall he know his companion by the unerring rules, unless that information is given? How shall he convince or instruct others if he is not taught? I would recommend that the candidate, before his admission to the first chapter degree, be required to give satisfactory evidence of his knowledge in the three symbolic degrees; and until he satisfies the chapter of his proficiency, the degree should not be conferred. And the same rule to be carried out in all that follows.

We have all witnessed the want of this knowledge in candidates and also in visitors. *It is not the fault of the candidate so much as the chapter conferring the degree.* It is to be hoped you will take such action as the emergency requires, and endeavor to apply the remedy that will arrest this growing evil.

We are aware there is not that attention paid to the qualification and instruction of candidates in the preceeding degrees, before advancements, necessary for the healthy and vigorous growth of Royal Arch Masonry; that too many are hurried through the several degrees without fully understanding the moral and sublime principles which they teach, and sent abroad without being able to impart the true light, or the means of making themselves known. The evil should be remedied."

The financial condition of the Grand Chapter has been redeemed from that "deplorable condition" of last year, and placed upon a very satisfactory basis. The Grand Treasurer reports having received \$4840.50, had paid \$2178.63, and had \$2651.87 remaining in his hands.

Fifty-five of the eighty-four chartered and working chapters were represented. From a very full and complete statistical table we learn that 345 were exalted; 113 admitted; 27 reinstated; 347 dimitted; 3 expelled; 426 suspended; and 90 died. The number of members is 3170.

To us of this jurisdiction the great number above given as "expelled," would imply a great lack of probity among the companions of Mississippi. The expelled are probably those who have failed to pay their dues,—a treatment of the case which has thus far failed to restore the patient to health. We deem the practice of expelling for non-payment of dues decidedly wrong, — an innovation upon ancient landmarks, — a violation of the spirit of masonry, — in short, a modern commercial excrescence which has grown upon its surface. In our opinion "suspension" is the only general treatment for non-payment of dues; "expulsion" should come only of clearly-defined unmasonic conduct.

There is a brief but able report of the committee on foreign correspondence from the pen of Comp. WILLIAM S. PATTON, in which the proceedings of fifteen Grand Chapters are courteously reviewed, — our own not among

the number. We trust there will be no further break in the chain of fraternal interchange of printed proceedings. This Grand Chapter will do its share to keep the links unbroken.

In commenting on the report of the foreign correspondence committee of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, who say that "masonry, south, as an organization, has succumbed to the tornado," Comp. PATTON very pertinently replies :

"Not so. Our organization, so far as Mississippi was concerned, kept her light continually burning. Incense on the altar burned day and night, except in certain localities where the vandals would make a raid upon some temple, sack and destroy its records and holy writings, carry away the jewels and furniture, and perhaps some of the worthy companions. Many of our tabernacles were shattered, the vails were rent, the altars desecrated ; but the true light never grew dim. We, of Mississippi, have no cause to re-discover and bring to light the many valuable secrets hidden in the rubbish of the broken temples. Those valuable secrets are in our possession ; we have them pure and undefiled, and will take great pleasure in imparting the knowledge of them to our companions of Michigan."

Comp. WILLIAM D. FERRIS, Deasonville, was elected Grand High Priest, and OSCAR T. KEELER, Columbus, was reelected Grand Secretary.

NEW JERSEY.

The annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was opened at Trenton, Sept. 12, 1866, by M.: E.: J. C. G. ROBERTSON, Grand High Priest, with prayer and singing a beautiful masonic ode selected for the occasion, which was appropriate and impressive.

In his annual address the Grand High Priest reports having made several decisions in masonic jurisprudence, to all of which we yield a cheerful assent, more particularly to one which we wish could be strictly regarded by all masonic bodies and in all jurisdictions. He decided that "masonic processions are not legal for any other than masonic purposes."

We are glad to have an opportunity of expressing our approval of this ruling. We have often thought there was a growing disposition, more particularly in younger Masons, to join public processions on occasions not in any sense masonic, such as fourth-of-July, temperance, sabbath schools and such-like celebrations, to make a public display of their costly banners and rich regalia, and thus attract the attention of the gazing and wondering populace.

This propensity is wrong. Masonry should be made attractive by its internal excellences, by the moral principles it inculcates, and by the practice of those principles by its votaries, and not by any pompous public exhibitions.

We copy his sensible and timely remarks on rotation in office, great desire to increase in numbers, and proficiency of work within that jurisdiction. He says :

“I wish to call the attention of this grand body to the prevalent system of rotation in office; for however well it may work in political bodies, I am very sure that it does not work well masonically, as no man of common sense can miss to observe the rough and rugged roads that are almost perpetually occurring in the form of insidious inuendoes, slanders innumerable, and other evils of a kindred kind, which so easily perforate the thin veil of an unseemly scramble for mere ostensible honor and office. This evil has grown and is now growing to such an extent that we must, if we will control its bad influence, whenever possible, nip it in the bud; for better by far is he who is able and willing to do the work of a Mason without either the name or position of an exhibitor, as a pure self-abnegation will bring to him a hallowing influence equal in value to the feeling experienced in all civilized nations at the glorious name of the immortal HOWARD.”

Then he says :

“One other point I wish to call your attention to, which has been pointedly brought to your notice, and that is the great struggle made to add to our numbers. One word of warning : be careful, companions, that you do not try to be over too soon, [toilsome?] as mere members are not strength, without unity.”

And again on work :

“I now come to what is pleasant to relate and a matter for congratulation, and that is the proficiency in the work which was exhibited and which was always correct and ably performed in all the chapters which I visited. Another point which claims my warmest gratitude was the respect shown to this grand body through its representatives, collectively and individually. I shall ever remember with unalloyed pleasure, not unmixed at times with wonder and astonishment, the courtesy and kind-

ness invariably displayed, and all the more as it proved that there was a latent feeling that could easily be made to emulate the doings of the good old times in by-gone days."

The report on foreign correspondence, by Comp. THOS. J. CORSON, is an able and well-written document and fully sustains his high reputation as a reporter, but the report before us is a little too high-seasoned and occasionally tinged with the gall of bitterness, and very sarcastic.

He seems to exult over what he calls a "*side-winder*" which Comp. LANGRIDGE gives in his review of New Hampshire on the subject of the dispensing power in the Grand High Priest, and very sarcastically asks, "Isn't it like marrying in haste and repenting at leisure," and says, "his ideas are in such perfect accordance with his own views (or as the spiritualists say), are so *en rapport* that he quotes his language. Now we are fully aware that our Grand Chapter is exposed to criticism by clothing its Grand officers with a dispensing power to make Royal Arch Masons short of constitutional time, but this is not the only Grand Chapter that has sinned in like manner, and any criticism on that subject by Comp. LANGRIDGE comes from him with an ill grace, when the same power is granted by his own Grand Chapter, and their Grand High Priest reported having granted more dispensations in one year than all the Grand High Priests in New Hampshire have granted since having that power. We are opposed to the principle, and have been free to

express our views both in and out of our Grand Chapter, and have made efforts to counteract it, yet we will not see our Grand Chapter unjustly criticised, ridiculed, or abused, without speaking in her defence. Between Companions CORSON, SAYRE of Alabama, and GUILBERT of Iowa, three able masonic writers, and great champions in masonic literature, there appears from their reports a little too much crimination and recrimination, thrusting and parrying, for the credit of either, exhibiting a want of that spirit of forbearance, charity, and manly dignity that should ever characterise our masonic reports.

The pamphlet before us contains the returns of fourteen chartered chapters, and one U. D. Under each is the number of members, number of exaltations, and amount of dues, and in a list of chapters we find the whole number of members to be 770, but the whole number of exaltations or amount of dues do not appear.

Comp. ISRAEL BALDWIN, Newark, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. JOHN WOLVERTON, Trenton, E. Grand Secretary.

NEW YORK FOR 1866.

Annual convocation Feb. 6, 1866. Chapters represented: chartered, 103; U. D., 4. Dues received including five U. D., \$6,855,27. Returns of members, 7566; exaltations, 1793. Eight dispensations for new

chapters had been granted during the year. Warrants of constitution for nine new chapters were granted.

The address of the Grand High Priest, M.: E.: HORACE S. TAYLOR, is temperate, candid and dignified, and exhibits a truly fraternal spirit. After briefly and feelingly alluding to the terrible struggle through which our country has just passed, he adds :

“ During the progress of the war, now so happily ended, masonry has done its full part in ameliorating its horrors. In the midst of battle, the masonic recognition has often turned aside the fatal messenger of death ; and when the battle was over, and darkness overshadowed the field, Masons from each army have sought out the wounded and dying brother ; binding up his wounds, supplying his wants, and receiving the last messages from dying lips, to be transmitted to loved ones at home. In these acts of brotherly kindness in such terrible scenes, may be found the great practical utility of the secret signs of recognition used among Masons throughout the world. These signs are an infallible test of brotherhood, and they at once awaken recollections in the mind of a Mason, which disarm him of all feelings of malice, cruelty or revenge, and bring into operation all the noblest impulses of his nature.

The Masons of the North will ever remember with gratitude the many acts of kindness of their Southern brethren towards unfortunate prisoners of war who were placed in their power. Many instances of their kindness have come to our knowledge ; prominent among them is the noble conduct of a Grand Master of one of the Southern States, who, during the early period of the war, went through the prisons of the city in which he dwelt, supplying the wants of his brother Masons among the prisoners, at the risk of his own life. Many a family at the North was unknowingly indebted to him for information concerning those whom they had supposed dead.

The devastations of war have reduced to poverty very many of the Royal Arch Chapters at the South, as well as many lodges and individual Masons. Applications for relief have been presented in their behalf

to many of the Chapters in this State, and, I am happy to say, have been generously responded to. I bespeak for them the sympathy of all Royal Arch Masons in this jurisdiction."

He congratulates the Grand Chapter upon the unexampled prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in the state and says that the number of exaltations was never so large as in the year just closed, and recommends great caution in the admission of candidates.

The report on foreign correspondence, by a committee of which Comp. JOSEPH WHITE was chairman, is a brief, but well-arranged and fraternal review of the proceedings of fifteen State Grand Chapters and the General Grand Chapter, our own not included, but particularly sparing in their comments on the proceedings of any Grand Chapter.

The Grand High Priest and Grand Secretary were both reëlected.

NEW YORK FOR 1867.

Annual convocation, Feb. 5th, 1867. Chapters represented: chartered, 115; U. D., 9; making 124; dues received, \$8146,08; members returned by one hundred and twenty-six chapters, 9490; exaltations, 1963.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest is principally a detail of his official acts. He represents the increase and prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry during the year beyond and above all former precedent. He says:

"In my last annual address, it was my privilege to congratulate you upon the unexampled prosperity of Royal Arch Masonry in the state. What was true in this respect then, I may repeat, even in stronger language now. The growth of our chapters exceeds that of any former year since the organization of this Grand Chapter. And I believe it has been such a growth as will add to the moral and intellectual strength of our institution, as well as to its numbers. I do not share in the apprehensions of many worthy companions, that our chapters are increasing too rapidly, or as it is expressed "doing too much work." I have witnessed too many evidences of the benefits of Royal Arch Masonry, not to desire its increase. As compared with our lodges, our chapters are yet few; and our lodges contain abundant material for the enlargement of our present chapters and the formation of new ones. I trust, however, that the very intelligent men who preside over the chapters in this jurisdiction need no caution from me, to induce them to be vigilant in scrutinizing the material offered for their acceptance.

A good degree of harmony has prevailed in our chapters during the year. In only one instance, and that an unimportant one, have I been called upon to interpose my authority."

Of the state of feeling existing between companions of the Southern and Northern States he says :

"Our relations with all the Grand Chapters of the several states, are of the most amicable kind. We are renewing our intercourse with our companions in the Southern States, which was unhappily suspended by the late war. And I am happy to state that the kind feelings which prevail among us towards our Southern brethren, are cordially reciprocated by them."

His very sensible and just remarks upon the necessity of every High Priest's becoming familiar with the duties of his office, are very just and alike applicable to presiding officers of other masonic bodies, and are deserving the serious consideration of all such. He says :

"The great majority of the communications addressed to the Grand High Priest, relate to subjects which are, or ought to be, made plain and simple by the constitution. And every High Priest of a chapter should endeavor to become familiar with all the provisions of the constitution of the Grand Chapter, as well as the fundamental principles of masonic jurisprudence upon which they are founded. Such a familiarity will enable them to decide for themselves the proper course to pursue in any emergency likely to arise. Perhaps no institution has conferred powers so unlimited and despotic upon its presiding officers as ours. How important then, is it, that those wielding such authority should prepare themselves by every means in their power, for the intelligent discharge of the duties of their high office."

The report on foreign correspondence, by Companion JOSEPH WHITE, like his former report, is a true, faithful and fraternal *exposé* of the sayings and doings of twenty-three State Grand Chapters, their Grand High Priests and correspondence committees, besides that of Canada. The proceedings of our Grand Chapter were reviewed and briefly noticed.

The committee make liberal, interesting and well-chosen extracts from addresses and reports, but make but seldom any comments on the sentiments uttered or the language in which they are clothed.

In reviewing the proceedings of Alabama and quoting the mild, conciliatory and forgiving spirit of the Grand High Priest of Alabama, and passages from the report of Companion SAYRE, somewhat tinctured with the gall of bitterness and jealousy of his Northern companions, Companion WHITE very modestly says :

"Now we would in perfect kindness, ask our esteemed companion, if it is not equally probable, that some unpleasant feeling may tinge the current of thought of some of our Southern companions."

And after quoting the language of Companion SAYRE in his review of the proceedings of Iowa, and the touch-stone by which northern masons are to be tried, to which we have before alluded and freely commented on, Companion WHITE lets him off with scarcely a word of rebuke or even disapprobation. He simply says:

"For the sake of harmony, and of 'peace and good will toward man,' we most earnestly hope our companion will receive *all* the missing transactions of the various Grand Bodies, North, as well as South, feeling confident that a perusal of them will disabuse his mind of the doubts and clouds which now shade it. Your committee would not have made these extracts, but in the performance of their duty as reporters of the sayings and doings of other jurisdictions having an influence upon the harmony of the craft."

Upon other subjects,—subjects purely masonic,—all concede to Companion SAYRE a well-merited commendation.

The committee say of Companion GUILBERT of Iowa, "He is a free and racy writer, and withal rather brusque." We would add, and withal a little too apt to exhibit his raciness and brusqueness to suit all latitudes and climates.

In the election of Grand officers, M.: E.: SEYMORE H. STONE, of Syracuse, was elected Grand High Priest and R.: E.: JOHN O. COLE, of Albany, was reelected

Grand Secretary, who declined longer serving, and M. E. CHRISTOPHER G. FOX, of Buffalo, was elected.

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter consequent upon Companion COLE's declining the office of Grand Secretary, showing the estimation in which he was held by his companions and their appreciation of his long and faithful services, are alike creditable to him and the Grand Chapter, and deserve a place in our report :

“ Companion OGDEN offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That in view of the invaluable and faithful services of Companion JOHN O. COLE, as Grand Secretary for forty - two years, over twenty - five of which was with a merely nominal compensation, (and during which he in fact preserved the life of the Grand Chapter,) this Grand Chapter do now, as a slight testimonial and just compensation for his services, appropriate to him the sum of five thousand dollars.

Companion OGDEN in moving the resolution, made a brief and touching address, and Companion J. L. LEWIS in seconding the resolution, eloquently adverted to memorable events in the past history of the Grand Chapter.

On motion,

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of this Grand Chapter, of the long-continued services of Companion J. O. COLE, as Grand Secretary.

Ordered, That Companions SIMONS, AUSTIN and SEYMOUR be such committee.”

Subsequently the committee made the following report which was accepted and resolutions adopted :

To the Grand Chapter of the State of New York :

Whereas, After forty - two consecutive years of service as Grand Secretary of this Grand Chapter, our venerable Companion JOHN O. COLE,

has, on account of his declining years, asked to retire from further official duty ; and

Whereas, It is due alike to him and to the Grand Chapter, that a suitable record of this marked event should be made ; therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of the State of New York hereby gratefully and cordially acknowledges the long, arduous and specially disinterested services of its Grand Secretary, Companion COLE.

Resolved, That in taking official leave of him, and consenting to fill the place he has so long honored, with another, they feel that they are but arranging for the rest due a worthy laborer, who has nobly borne the heat and burden of the day, and to whom the wages of repose are eminently due.

Resolved, That, regarding him with filial, as well as fraternal admiration, we earnestly pray that he may yet be spared to us many years, and appear at our convocations as one of the patriarchs of our institution, whom the younger brethren may be proud to reverence and honor.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions, made official and properly engrossed, be presented to R. E. Comp. COLE."

NORTH CAROLINA.

In common with every true-hearted and sincere Royal Arch Mason we rejoice that we can renew our masonic courtesies and exchange fraternal greetings with our Southern companions, from whom we have so long been separated by the force of adverse circumstances of the most sad and revolting character, and we would assure our Southern brethren and companions that although deprived of all interchange of friendly and fraternal intercourse, we have not been estranged ; that we have sympathized with their misfortunes, and compassionated their

miseries, and, to the extent of our power, would restore peace to our troubled minds, and we ardently hope and pray that a free and friendly intercourse may never again be interrupted.

We are happy to acknowledge the receipt of a copy of the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of North Carolina, at its annual convocation, June 4th, 1866.

Eleven chartered chapters and six U. D. were represented. Full returns are published, under each chapter of which is given the number of admitted, exalted, rejected, withdrawn, died, expelled, suspended, residents not members, and whole number, but the aggregate is nowhere found, and our time will not justify us in counting them up. It is to be regretted that all Grand Secretaries do not append to their proceedings a table, which may be easily prepared from the returns, embracing statistical facts, as the best criterion by which to judge of the increase and prosperity of the order.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. GEO. B. WATERHOUSE, is very brief and exclusively confined to that jurisdiction. In speaking of the amount of work and the importance of suitable proficiency before advancement, his remarks are excellent, to the point, and deserving the attentive consideration of all masonic bodies, and if adhered to, we should have more real and well-informed Masons and less nominal and uninstructed ones, —more working bees and less drones in the masonic hive. We should also hear less of nonaffiliated Masons,

for experience proves that very few well-informed Masons neglect to become contributing members of the order, and that it is those only who are content with the shadow without the substance, that remain unaffiliated. The Grand High Priest says :

"During the past four years our numbers have increased rapidly. Had we done less work, and compelled those who received it, to learn each degree as they progressed, I am satisfied it would have been better for the craft. We have too many who, having gone through the ritual of the Royal Arch degrees, could not stand the examination of an Entered Apprentice Mason. I maintain there is no neutral ground in masonry ; every member is either an advantage or an injury to the order. And I recommend that this Grand Chapter take such action as will not allow a subordinate chapter to confer the degrees upon any brother who cannot stand a good examination as a Master Mason ; also compel the applicant to exhibit a specimen of his skill in each degree, before advancing ; do this, and we will then have bright working chapters."

The report on foreign correspondence, by Companion ALFRED MARTIN, is a candid, impartial, fraternal and well-prepared review of the proceedings of twenty-one State Grand Chapters, ours included, together with the General Grand Chapter, notwithstanding his apology that those proceedings were turned over to him at a late day by the chairman of the committee by reason of his ill health. He compliments us on our report for 1865, and says, "We have seldom met with one that we have read with more interest," and quotes and cordially indorses our closing remarks.

After alluding to the sentiments expressed by the Grand High Priest of Connecticut, and extracting largely

from his address, Comp. MARTIN closes his report in the following felicitous strain, for transcribing of which we beg to be excused :

“ Such manifestations as these, of a love and fraternal consideration, superior to the all - powerful and pervading influence of the passions and prejudices that seem to have been kindled in the breasts of the great masses of our countrymen in the Northern and Western States, by the political contest so recently closed, have impressed us deeply. Not that the principles, doctrines and teachings of our sublime institutions did not justify us in expecting it. But Masons are mortal, and endowed by nature with all the characteristics of their fellow - men, and the first and natural inference must be, that feelings, sentiments and prejudices, that have like a great maelstrom, swallowed up nearly every class in particular sections, must have engulfed them also in the raging vortex. Since the close of the great conflict between the two sections, we have been accustomed to hear our people traduced, villified, misrepresented and held up to the scorn and derision of the civilized world. Hoary Senators and Representatives in Congress, who, in the natural course of events, must themselves, ere long, be suppliants for pardon and mercy at the Throne of Eternal Justice, invoking the further vengeance of Almighty God upon our devoted heads, impiously declaring that God has not inflicted upon us the amount of punishment that we should suffer, and volunteering their services as the executioners of the further manifestations of His wrath and indignation, even to the point of extermination. This feeling has been fostered and inculcated through the press, political and religious — from the pulpit, the rostrum, and all the other mediums of operating upon the public mind — until we feel that we may justly hold ourselves excused from indulging the fear that our masonic brethren and companions had not escaped the infection. The evidence before us of the humanizing, christianizing influence of masonry upon the minds and affections of men, has, however, effectually dispelled all doubts, and established our faith upon an immovable basis.

If, therefore, we are true to our institution and to ourselves, and receive these tokens of fraternal brotherhood in the cordial spirit of recip-

rocity, we may dismiss all further apprehension in regard to the future prosperity and usefulness of our great and good institution. The events of the late war have given an impetus to masonry that will elevate it high above the most exalted position that it has ever occupied before, in this, or perhaps in any other country, and its benign influence may yet accomplish more, in removing sectional prejudices, and establishing peace and good-will among men, than our most enthusiastic faith in its power has ever led us to hope for. We have discovered in our examination of the proceedings of our sister grand chapters, that there are a few, and we rejoice to say, a *very* few, prominent Masons, who cannot divest themselves of political and sectional prejudices. Those men are enemies to the institution; they have too much intelligence not to understand the principles of the Order, and that the practice of introducing political, sectional or sectarian prejudices into their masonic addresses and reports, and making the principles of masonry secondary in consideration to the promptings of such feelings, is subversive of the fundamental laws of the order. And they should be rebuked promptly and sternly in every instance, and by every Lodge and Chapter in the land, supreme and subordinate."

Comp. ALFRED MARTIN, Wilmington, was elected M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. THOMAS B. CARR, Wilmington, was reelected R. E. Grand Secretary.

OHIO.

The Grand R. A. Chapter of Ohio assembled in annual convocation at Toledo, Oct. 24, 1866. Chapters represented, 93; dues paid, \$3331.75; number of members, 3659; exaltations, 528.

The M. E. GEORGE REX in his annual address thus alludes to the decease of a distinguished worthy and efficient member of the order:

"Companion WILLIAM B. HUBBARD died at his residence in the city of Columbus, on the 5th of January last. He was elected Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter in 1842, and presided over its deliberations until the communication of 1846. He held many elevated positions among the craft, not only in this State, but in the United States, in all of which he discharged the duties incumbent upon him with an ability seldom equalled in the history of the order. He was respected and honored wherever known, and his memory will be cherished by the whole fraternity, as an intelligent, faithful, diligent and efficient laborer in behalf of our beloved institution."

In his address the Grand High Priest occupies almost five pages in narrating the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter at the last triennial convocation, giving in minute detail what it did and what is proposed to be done when it next meets; and that he drew an order on the Grand Treasurer for \$487.00 to defray the liabilities of the Grand Chapter of the State in connection with the Grand Encampment in entertaining the officers and members of the General Grand Chapter and Grand Encampment of the United States, and distinguished visitors from other States. After reporting in detail his official acts, the Grand High Priest recommends that the Grand Chapter take some action authorizing subordinate chapters to elect honorary members as follows:

"Permit me also to direct your attention to a subject about which some provision or regulation should be made. There are, in this state, a large number of members of the order, who, from age and increasing infirmities, are prevented from attending our meetings and participating in our labors, and who still desire to retain their membership among us, but feel, that having given to the order the labors of the best and most

active period of their lives, they should be relieved from all the burdens and cares incident to membership under our present regulations. These gray-headed veterans should be cherished by us, and, if possible, relieved of every care in their declining years. There was a time in the history of the order in this state, when it was supposed that a chapter had the power of conferring the distinction of honorary membership on its own members, and thus relieve them of the ordinary labors of the chapter, and the payment of dues, they retaining all the rights, benefits and privileges of members in good standing in such chapter; but since the adoption, by the Grand Lodge of this State, of a different rule on this subject, it is supposed that the right of a chapter to confer this distinction on its own members, no longer obtains. I would therefore recommend the adoption of a rule, giving to subordinate chapters the right to confer the distinction of honorary membership on their own members, and as incident to the distinction thus conferred, the companion thus honored shall be relieved of the ordinary labors of the chapter, and the payment of dues, and shall be entitled to all the rights, benefits and privileges of a member of such chapter and of the order at large."

The subject was referred to the committee on masonic jurisprudence who reported a postponement till the next annual convocation.

The report on foreign correspondence by Comp. HOWARD MATTHEWS as chairman, is a fair and fraternal review of the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter and twenty-one State Grand Chapters.

In the introduction of their report the committee give utterance to the following fraternal and truly masonic sentiment:

"We are happy in being able to report that Royal Arch Masonry in the United States is in a highly prosperous condition: from every quarter, we hear the welcome sound that *"all is well."* We are particu-

larly gratified in the receipt of the proceedings of some of our southern sisters, and we welcome them with true fraternal greetings: we trust that before another year, we shall be in full correspondence with every State in the Union, and that Royal Arch Masons throughout this entire land shall be linked together by the silver chain of brotherly love, and that we may, with one accord, unite in erecting our second temple of 'Holiness to the Lord.' "

Before reviewing in detail the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter, the committee indulge in the following kind, candid and sensible remarks in reference to that grand body:

"The principal subject that has been discussed amongst the chapters, North and South, has been the propriety of withdrawing from connection with the General Grand Chapter of the United States, and various arguments are used, *pro and con*, on the subject. What position this Grand Chapter may take, it is impossible to foretell, but we have no fear but that the same spirit of kindness, gentleness and moderation which generally characterizes her movements, will be found in her deliberations on this subject.

There is evidently a feeling of restlessness of restraint, in many of the Grand Chapters of the country. And we think this is natural and proper. There is as much intelligence, zeal, and masonic wisdom in any State Grand Chapter as can be found in the General Grand Chapter; nor would we detract from the latter in this particular. Every State Grand Chapter is fully competent to enact laws for its own government, and is at the same time jealous of preserving the ancient landmarks, and we would be loth to surrender to a foreign jurisdiction, powers that, while we are as competent to administer them as they, might in time be perverted and misused to the detriment of the institution. Yet, on the other hand, we feel to realize that it is 'good' and 'pleasant' for 'brethren to dwell together in unity,' not only in local, but in state aggregated organizations. And an essential help to this, would be a periodical reunion of companions, of every section of our wide-spread country, to

meet together and exchange fraternal greetings ; to cultivate the *social* qualities, which would not only tend largely to advance the interests of our institution, but would also be calculated to cement and unite together, as with hooks of steel, our glorious Union.

While, therefore, we would not confer upon the General Grand Chapter any powers of discipline or control in the enacting of ordinances of correction or restraint, we would not object to their having the power of organizing new Grand Chapters in states and territories where no Grand Chapters exist, but also of acting as an umpire in the settlement of any differences that might unfortunately arise between Grand Chapters, and of giving them advice and admonition."

In their review of Alabama the committee say of Comp. SAYRE's report on foreign correspondence, that "while it manifests considerable acerbity of feeling towards their northern companions, it is, on the whole a well-written document;" and we think Comp. SAYRE has reason to be thankful that the committee let him off so easily. After quoting two resolutions adopted by the Grand Chapter of Alabama, which we have quoted in our review of Alabama, the committee comment and say :

"This is the true masonic spirit, and a credit alike to the head and heart of the companion who offered it and the Grand Chapter that passed it; and we trust that not only the Grand Chapter of Ohio, but also the Grand Chapters of the entire North, will return to the companions of Alabama and other southern jurisdictions, the sweet echoes of brotherly love and kindness; assuring them of our desire to renew relations of the closest amity, and expressing the hope that in all time there may never again be any contention among us, 'except that noble contention, or rather emulation, of who can best work and best agree.' "

The proceedings of our Grand Chapter are briefly noticed, a short extract taken from M. E. Grand High

Priest HOLBROOK's address, and the rule of the Grand Chapter adopted to prevent shortening the work, commended.

The whole report bears the impress of a high-minded, dignified, and truly masonic spirit and we would be glad to make further extracts, but time and our promise to be brief forbid.

Comp. GEORGE REX, Wooster, M. E. Grand High Priest, and JOHN D. CALDWELL, Cincinnati, Grand Secretary, were both reelected.

OREGON.

The sixth annual convocation of this Grand Chapter was held in Portland, June, 18, 1866. Chapters represented, 5. The committee on chapters report 142 members, 22 exaltations and \$248.81 dues.

The address of the M. E. Grand High Priest, C. H. LEWIS is very brief, occupying less than one page. He regrets that R. A. Masonry in that jurisdiction for the last two years has not been as prosperous as formerly, and accounts for its decline in the changing character of the population and eager pursuit of wealth which absorbs all other ambition.

Report on foreign correspondence is very brief, occupying but eight pages in reviewing the proceedings of the General Grand Chapter and eleven State Grand Chapters.

The Grand Chapter of New Hampshire receives a proportional share of attention.

Comp. GEORGE A. EDES, Salem, M. E. Grand High Priest, and Comp. CHARLES M. CARTWRIGHT, Salem, R. E. Grand Secretary.

TENNESSEE.

A stated annual meeting of the Grand Chapter of Tennessee was convened at Nashville on the seventh day of December, 1866, M. E. JOHN FRIZZELL, Grand High Priest presiding.

Of the sixty-four subordinate chapters, including ten under dispensation, forty were represented. Of the vitality of the chapters which were represented we can only venture a "guess," based on two items in the Grand Secretary's financial statement, where he says he "received for dispensations \$1096.00; for dues \$2430.00." Our readers can make their own guess whether the amount received as dues was for new work, for old work, or for both.

The address of M. E. Comp. FRIZZELL is a model of brevity and compactness, he having in three hundred and thirty-two words said all that he wished to say, and said it well. In the opening paragraph of his address he gratefully alludes to the physical health of the members of the institution within his jurisdiction, and thoughtfully suggests a reason therefor. He says:

"While the 'pestilence which walketh in darkness, and the destruction that wasteth at noon-day,' has visited many of our fellow-citizens, we are gratified at being able to state that the members of the masonic institution have been comparatively exempt from its ravages. May not this be regarded as an evidence of the practical benefits of an adherence to that cardinal virtue which is a restraint upon our passions, rendering our bodies tame and governable."

This was said in allusion to the prevalence of cholera at Nashville, which was to such an extent as to prevent the regular meeting of the Grand Chapter in October.

In reviewing the field of capitular masonry in his jurisdiction, Comp. FRIZZELL gives us the only light we have relative to its vitality as an institution. He says :

"Peace and harmony prevail within the chapters in this jurisdiction. No element of discord exists ; and it is gratifying to be able to state, that at no previous period in the history of capitular masonry in this state was the desire to extend its privileges to the worthy more manifest, nor when more interest was shown in the promotion of the interests of this branch of the order."

A special committee on jurisdictional violations report that chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapters of Kentucky, Virginia, Alabama and Mississippi, are in the habit of conferring the degrees upon brethren of Tennessee, without the knowledge or consent of the chapter within whose jurisdiction they reside ; and introduce a resolution that their M. E. Grand High Priest be instructed to correspond with the M. E. Grand High Priests of those states to see if the evil cannot be abated.

Among many resolutions passed at the session, we take the following for their brevity and point :

Resolved, That a Certificate of Office, printed on a parchment, be given to each Grand and Past Grand Officer of this Grand Chapter.

Resolved, That in Exaltations in subordinate Chapters, no substitutes shall hereafter be permitted.

Resolved, That the salary of the Grand Secretary be fixed at Five Hundred Dollars per annum.

Comp. CHARLES A. FULLER, as chairman of the committee on foreign correspondence, submitted a very clear, comprehensive and courteous report of the proceedings of twenty-three Grand Chapters, the General Grand Chapter and our own for 1865, being included among the number. In submitting their report, being the first report on foreign correspondence submitted to that grand body, we infer, for six or more years, the committee say :

“ Since the time of making their last report, great and mighty events have occurred in the social and political history of our country—events, grand in their magnitude, and gigantic in their future influences ; but it is not the province of your committee even to speculate how far the influences created through the agency of mortal strife, on many a hard-fought battle-field, is to affect the happiness and prosperity of our people. These are questions that more properly belong to the statesman, the philosopher, and the philanthropist. Each may have his portion of duty to perform, without trespassing in the slightest degree upon the appropriate sphere of the masonic institution. It is a matter of gratification, however, to know that during the continuance of the late horrible strife, masonry sustained its character as an institution of mercy—of ‘ peace and good will ’—even in the midst of contending armies, and in spite of difficulties and dangers, pouring oil upon gaping wounds and relieving those in sore distress. Many well-attested facts of the benefits

bestowed upon suffering brethren, regardless whether they were friends or foemen, have come to the ears of your committee, and would form an interesting chapter in the history of our Institution; and we sincerely trust that some one competent to the task may be induced to devote time sufficient to gather up and perpetuate in some permanent form these instances of brotherly love and kindness, before the actors therein have passed away."

We say amen to the closing suggestion of the above paragraph. To gather up these separate and scattered incidents, which are to be found in almost every chapter and lodge in the land, and to unite them in an unbroken chain, would form a monument to the fundamental principles of masonry which should challenge the admiration of the world.

In their review of the report on foreign correspondence of Alabama, by Comp. SAYRE, the committee thus allude to his erratic dropping of the themes of masonry and say :

"Heretofore we have experienced much pleasure in perusing reports from the same writer; but on the present occasion we are reluctantly compelled to express our sorrow that one so capable of rising above the petty passions of the hour, should have permitted himself to indulge in a strain tending to arouse in others a spirit of retaliation. Better to have passed over unpleasant matters in silence, remembering that much has been said by persons on both sides of the late unhappy controversy loudly calling for the mantle of oblivion to cover out of sight."

We could wish that our companions of Tennessee had been thoroughly and inflexibly consistent throughout their report. We are sorry to observe that they permit to pass unrebuked, — nay, with a partial apology for the same, — some remarks quoted from the address of the Grand High

Priest of North Carolina, for 1863. For what amount of subsequent political tirades this paragraph is to be held responsible we are unable to judge. In this matter of introducing politics into masonic addresses and reports, the question recurs, — Who *first* committed the offence? We cannot answer the question, but we say that upon that first offence the restraining influence of censure should have been laid; whether it rested upon our own Grand Chapter, or was laid upon that of another jurisdiction.

Our companions of Tennessee in their review of the report of Comp. GUILBERT of Iowa on foreign correspondence, are very discreet in their commendation of its masonic merits, and very severe in their condemnation of its political character. They say that

“While some portions of this report are commendable, still larger portions are amendable to grave censure and repudiation. It is captious in spirit, and the writer . . . illustrates the positions he dictatorially assumes by allusions and reflections totally uncalled for and certainly out of place in a masonic document. We regret exceedingly that our sense of duty to the craft compels us thus pointedly to condemn the general spirit of the report before us. This we say more in sorrow than in anger, and we would gladly have passed it by in silence did we consult our own choice.”

We think the remarks just and applicable; large portions of Comp. GUILBERT's report are of very questionable propriety, and equally questionable is the tone and sentiment of the following extract from the address of the Grand High Priest of North Carolina, before alluded to.

“ ‘ We can see no justifiable reason why any State Grand Chapter in the Confederate States of America should acknowledge, or profess to owe, any allegiance to any General Grand Body which is composed of material hailing from the Northern States, composed, in part, at least, of men who aim at the subjugation of a free people, and the entire destruction of their property, and, in short, of everything which is most dear to them as a people.’ ”

Our Tennessee companions thus comment on the same :

“ It will be borne in mind that the remarks quoted were made in 1863, and under circumstances of great excitement and irritation consequent to the then existing state of affairs— and although the reflections therein contained are liable to censure, yet when we reflect upon the circumstances under which they were uttered, some little palliation may be offered in their behalf. On this text, however, Comp. GUILBERT thus delivers himself :”

We regret that the committee suggested any palliation or excuse for the use of such language. If it is not political, it is not what we should call masonic or courteous. It is a fling at some companions which ought not to have been uttered, but having been uttered should have been censured at once. Comp. GUILBERT, as we see, makes it the text and excuse for writing a far more elaborate and objectionable paragraph, giving his views upon the matter.

We have elsewhere taken occasion to express our views upon the subject of introducing political matters into masonic addresses and reports, but we will here repeat that we deem it entirely out of place, out of character, and those who indulge in it loosen their hold upon the

esteem and respect of their brethren. Nay, worse! it degrades masonry to the level of the pot-house or the street broil.

Comp. JONATHAN S. DAWSON, Paris, was elected Grand High Priest, and Comp. CHARLES A. FULLER, Nashville, was reelected Grand Secretary.

VERMONT.

The annual grand convocation of the Grand Chapter of Vermont was held at Burlington, Oct. 3, 1866. Number of subordinate chapters, 14; represented, 12; making returns, 14; paying dues, 11, amounting in the aggregate to \$350.50; number of exaltations not reported; number of members of each chapter is noted at the end of returns, the aggregate of which we might ascertain by taking them off and footing up, which we have neither time nor inclination to do.

We repeat our regret that some Grand Secretaries fail to give us such statistics as enable us to judge of the increase and prosperity of the order in their respective grand jurisdictions. Not being able to attend in person the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. LEVERETT B. ENGLISBY, through the R. E. D. Grand High Priest, presented a brief, but well-written and business-like address, from which we transfer to our columns the following beautiful and truly masonic sentiments:

"There have never been any disturbing influences at work that I am aware of. The subordinate chapters appear to have pursued the even tenor of their ways, transacting their business with care, and having a fair measure of prosperity. Such prosperity is all that we could desire, for you will all agree that numbers alone are not a fair criterion of successful progress, but the quality and spirit by which they are animated. With the right spirit we have everything, without it, nothing. The spirit of fraternity, of love for and desire to improve humanity in all its phases, making of ourselves and our institution such and so much that its influence may be felt as an instrument of good in every community where it exists. In so far as we effect this we realize the purposes of our institution; in so far as we fail, we fall short thereof.

Our relations with the Grand Chapters of other jurisdictions remain of the most friendly character. What transactions they may have had which should receive your attention, will be suggested by the committee on foreign correspondence, who have that matter specially in charge and who will perform their duty in that behalf with the ability which has hitherto characterized their productions. Let us, my companions, enter upon the business of the session with the determination to do all that may be necessary without haste — with that consideration which makes completeness; that, as the years pass by, the edifice we are erecting may appear without alteration or blemish, with equal steps advancing to a perfect structure. Some day our masonic history will be written. Let it be such that we and those who come after us may read it with pride, as the record of the doings of men, desirous of knowing their whole duty to their fellows, and knowing, to perform. No prouder record can any man or body of men make than this. The quarries in which you are to delve are before you; upon the specimens which you present therefrom impress no uncertain marks."

The report on foreign correspondence by Comp. JOSHUA BRITTON is a faithful and true *exposé* of the present condition and future prospects of those Grand Chapters coming within his notice. He briefly reviews

the proceedings of twenty-one State Grand Chapters, our own included, and the General Grand Chapter, but makes few comments.

In his notice of the report on foreign correspondence by Comp. OWEN, Grand Secretary of the Grand Chapter of California, he refers to an allusion by Comp. OWEN to the 27th article of the general regulations of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, requiring the installation of officers of chapters working U. D. and quotes the remarks of Comp. OWEN without comment, from which we infer that such is the practice in Vermont, and we say with Comp. OWEN that we know of no other Grand Chapter having such a regulation and with Comp. OWEN believe it is peculiar to the Grand Chapter of Vermont and contrary to the general usage in other jurisdictions.

In his review of the proceedings of our Grand Chapter for 1865, Comp. BRITTON says of Comp. JOHN PRENTISS of Keene, of whom Grand High Priest HOLBROOK makes mention in his address "as one of our oldest and most respectable companions in the State," "that this venerable brother is remembered as a contemporary with my honored father, the late JOSHUA BRITTON, who many years since presided over Jerusalem Lodge at Westmoreland, N. H."

After speaking of our report on foreign correspondence in commendable and flattering terms, and copying our concluding remarks, Comp. BRITTON pays us the fol-

lowing high compliment, for which we thank him, and can only wish our merits justly deserved it:

"The admonition of Comp. CHASE, so frequently urged upon our consideration, coming now from one whose long experience and close observation entitle them to more than ordinary attention, should have more influence upon all who desire the permanent prosperity of the masonic institution."

Comp. BRITTON closes his report in the following happy strain :

"The duty to which we were called is performed ; it may be somewhat imperfectly ; this department of masonic labor is a new field of research to the undersigned ; it has its responsibilities, pleasures and reward. It was commenced with an introduction to the companions of Alabama, through the proceedings of their Grand Chapter. As a fitting close, I would reproduce the resolutions, with a change of one word, found at the close of their proceedings, offered by Comp. J. W. L. DANIEL, trusting that they will be heartily adopted by the Grand Chapter of Vermont :

Resolved, That this Grand Chapter heartily reciprocates the expressions of brotherly love and kindness set forth in the proceedings of various Grand Chapters South, as we learn from the committee on foreign correspondence.

Resolved, That it is the sincere desire of this grand body to cultivate the feelings of brotherly love and charity towards our companions, wheresoever dispersed."

M. E. EDWARD S. DANA, New Haven, was elected Grand High Priest, and E. Comp. JOHN B. HOLLENBECK of Burlington, a veteran in masonry and several years the able and efficient Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, was reëlected Grand Secretary.

VIRGINIA.

We made a mistake in naming Virginia for 1866 in our list. We inadvertently mistook 1865 which is noticed in our report for 1865, see page 390. We cannot find that we have received the proceedings of Virginia for 1866.

WISCONSIN.

The Grand R. A. Chapter of Wisconsin assembled in annual convocation Feb. 6, 1867. The committee on credentials reported twenty-eight chartered chapters and four U. D., as represented, and the Grand Secretary reports amount of dues received Feb. 6, 1867, \$2101.00. These proceedings are deficient in statistics, the number of members not given, and no return of exaltations made. Full returns of names of officers and members of subordinate chapters are published, but the number of members of each is not given. To judge then of the prosperity of capitular masonry in Wisconsin, we have the general statement of the M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. DAVID H. WRIGHT, on that point, who says :

"The past year has been one of continued prosperity to the royal craft. In every part of this jurisdiction, the utmost harmony prevails and I do not know of a single discordant element that mars the harmony of the beautiful structure, whose foundations have been laid so broad

and deep by the superior skill of those master builders, whose wisdom erected this magnificent temple, at whose shrine we are wont to worship."

His remarks upon the manner of conferring some of the degrees in Royal Arch Chapters are excellent and deserve the attentive and earnest consideration of R. A. Masons in other jurisdictions.

He alludes to, and condemns a practice, which we have ever condemned, and used our feeble efforts to correct, and that companions within our jurisdiction may see and know that we stand not alone in our views, we copy his remarks and hope our companions will read and profit thereby. He says:

"My attention has been frequently called during the past year to the manner of conferring the Past Master and Royal Arch degrees in some chapters in this jurisdiction. The work in the P. M. as adopted by this Grand Chapter, and the resolution of the G. G. Chapter as found on page 46, printed proceedings of this Grand Chapter, session of 1865, together with the action of this body same page, would seem to sufficiently indicate the proper course to pursue.

I trust that where an opposite course has been adopted, our companions will see the impropriety, and conform to the work. With regard to that *august degree* that is the crowning glory of our beautiful temple, I trust the members of this Grand Chapter will see the impropriety of desecrating its sublime lessons in such a manner as to render it little less than a farce, and the impressions intended to be made entirely lost.

In masonry every lesson taught is calculated to make man better and purer, to inspire him with higher and holier thoughts and aspirations, to lead him to the *great fountain* of truth, and while receiving those lessons, so dear to the heart of every intelligent member of the craft, whatever tends to draw his thoughts from the impression intended to be con-

veyed, is an innovation and is calculated to debase rather than to exalt, and should receive the united condemnation of every member of the craft. Your attention has so often been called by my predecessors to the wholesale and indiscriminate manner of conferring the chapter degrees that it would seem to be almost a work of supererogation for me to mention the matter here. But I cannot let this opportunity pass without one word of caution.

Standing, as it were, upon the walls of our beautiful temple I think I can see in this, much danger to the perpetuity of our institution. Where so much material is brought up for inspection, some that is unworthy, and will not stand the test of the *great overseer's* square, must necessarily find its way into the walls of the building, instead of being rejected and thrown over among the rubbish. Masonry is becoming too common. This is a fast age. Men become fanatic in everything, in politics, in religion, and even in masonry! Let us then guard well the outer court of the tabernacle. See that no improper material enter into and become a part of the structure; but may all the parts be so nicely adjusted that we may form a perfect and complete whole. That when the master overseer shall try us by the unerring test of *truth*, no discordant element, however *singular* and *beautiful* its form, may be found mingled with the good and square work, we have brought up for the building."

Comp. J. P. C. COTTRILL, from the committee on foreign correspondence, presented an interesting, able, and well-digested summary of the proceedings of twenty-one grand chapters, ours not included, for the reason that the proceedings of 1866 have not been distributed, having been printed at so late a day that it was deemed advisable to suspend the distribution, and bind them with the proceedings of 1867.

We copy the introductory remarks of the committee, as exhibiting a truly masonic spirit, and as peculiarly characteristic of the spirit and temper pervading the

whole report. After giving a list of the grand chapters whose proceedings they have received, the committee say :

“ It will be perceived that we are this year in the receipt of tidings from several grand chapters with whom for some time we have been unable to hold communication. This is a source of real pleasure, and we indulge and here express the hope that in the future, neither for the cause that has latterly existed, nor for any other, will the circle of our communication with the sister grand chapters be broken in upon ; but that each successive year will show us in direct, as it always will be in fraternal connection, with all the grand chapters of our beloved country. Our hope in this respect is strengthened by the friendly and true masonic sentiments which we find pervading the reports from those grand bodies whose proceedings have so long been absent from our table ; and pointing to our own recorded declarations in the past, we renew to all our companions of the royal craft the assurance of our desire for the permanent existence of the most cordial and fraternal relations with them.”

In reviewing the proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Vermont, and alluding to the relation in which that Grand Chapter stands with the General Grand Chapter, the committee indulge in the following appropriate remarks :

“ A providential silence seems to have prevailed in reference to the General Grand Chapter, and the attitude of Vermont towards it. *We*, however, shall take the liberty, which we know will not be resented, of calling to the minds of our companions there, the stinging philippic of the late lamented Tucker, ‘ the noblest *Mason* of them all,’ against the right of secession, found in the General Grand Chapter proceedings for 1857 ; and to remind them that Iowa, who led off in secession with them, has, as we have already noted, the matter of returning under consideration.”

We happen to know that the lamented Tucker, who stood at the head of masonry in Vermont, at the time of his death was an officer of the General Grand Chapter, and so strongly was he attached to its interest that we verily believe that the Grand Chapter of Vermont would never have seceded from it during his lifetime.

We find nothing in the business of that session claiming special notice.

M. E. DAVID H. WHITE, Madison, as Grand High Priest, and E. W. T. PALMER, Milwaukee, as Grand Secretary, were both reelected.

FLORIDA.

The proceedings of the Grand Chapter of Florida for 1867 were received before commencing our report and included in our list, but somehow got mislaid and not found till too late to be inserted in its proper place.

The annual convocation for 1867 was held at Tallahassee, Jan. 14.

From a summary of returns we learn there are, in that jurisdiction, sixteen subordinate chapters, ten of which made returns. Members, 445; exaltations, 77; dues paid, \$494.00.

The address of the M. E. G. H. P., Comp. DAVID JONES, is very concise, occupying less than two pages. He closes with the following brief, but masonic sentiment:

“ And now, companions, in closing these remarks, permit me again to impress upon your minds the importance of our sacred obligations to each other and our responsibility to our beloved institution.

In discharging the duties for which we are assembled, let us practice the utmost charity to one another, and esteem it a high privilege and masonic duty to promote each other's welfare and correct each other's faults.”

Comp. THOMAS BROWN presented an interesting, able, and well-written report on foreign correspondence and with one exception, mild and conciliatory in tone.

In his review of the report of the committee on foreign correspondence of the Grand Chapter of Michigan, he copies a paragraph from the introductory part of the Michigan report (which we noticed and thought exceptionable and unworthy of a place in a masonic report), and comments upon it in language and temper more bitter, vindictive and offensive than anything we have met with elsewhere. After copying another sentence from the Michigan report, where the writer alludes to the loyalty of three eminent companions of the South, the latter of whom was Comp. ALBERT G. MACKEY, G. G. H. P., of the G. G. Chapter, whose fidelity led to the loss of his property and who had received material aid from several Grand Chapters, Comp. BROWN indulges in language still more exceptionable and bordering strongly on a gross slander upon Comp. MACKEY. And as if sensible that he had exceeded the bounds of masonic prudence and moderation, and owed an apology, he says :

"I am glad to say that in my examination of the proceedings of capitulary masonry, that this report of the corresponding committee of the Grand Chapter of Michigan is the only instance of unmasonic vindictiveness and uncharitableness that I have met with, or if there be any other instance that has escaped my memory, it is of so mild a character in comparison with the Michigan report as to be entitled to forgiveness. All the other reports of the corresponding committees of the Grand Chapters in our capitulary heritage, since the trying scenes and horrors of war have passed over us, breathe such a spirit of brotherly love and charity as makes the heart of the true Mason leap with joy for the influence of our order."

We were sorry to see so good and so able a report marred by language so undignified and unmasonic, and sincerely hope that our worthy Comp. BROWN, on mature reflection, will be convinced that, if any unpleasant feelings exist between companions of different sections of our country, from any cause, they cannot be removed by a constant recurrence to the cause and use of irritating language; that if peace, harmony and good feeling is ever to be restored we must all learn to exercise that charity which "beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things." We must learn to forgive as we hope to be forgiven.

In his review of the proceedings of nineteen state Grand Chapters he notices ours for 1865 with favor, and most heartily responds to the reception of their proceedings and says:

"And most heartily do the companions of Florida, of the far South in the Gulf of Mexico, greet our companions of the White Mountains of the

far North State, and congratulate them on our reunion as companions most true. *Esto perpetua.*"

Comp. DAVID JONES, Lake City, M. E. Grand High Priest and Comp. HUGH A. CORLEY, Tallahassee, E. Grand Secretary. Both reëlected.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

We have the proceedings of this Grand Chapter for 1862, 1866, and 1867 in one pamphlet, which was received after most of this report was written and in print, which accounts for its not being noticed in its proper order.

The proceedings for 1862 and 1866 are very brief, there being represented in 1862 but twelve subordinate chapters of twenty-five on their roll. There was no address of Grand High Priest, or report on foreign correspondence. In consideration of the unsettled state of the country, that most of the chapters had suspended labor and that the treasury of the Grand Chapter was empty, the Grand High Priest, M. E. ALBERT G. MACKEY issued an order, on the 12th of January, 1863, suspending and postponing the meeting of the Grand Chapter till further notice.

The next annual convocation on record was held in Charleston, Feb. 13, 1866. Comp. A. G. MACKEY, M. E. G. H. P. presiding; thirteen chapters represented.

The record says, "The Grand High Priest made a

very eloquent address, verbally, which he promised to furnish in writing," but which does not appear in the proceedings.

The annual convocation for 1867 was held at Charleston, Feb. 12th and 13th. Chapters represented, 16.

The M. E. Grand High Priest, Comp. **MACKEY**, in his address says :

"I am sorry to say that I have no flattering report to make of the condition of Royal Arch Masonry in the state. The long-continued strife in our land pressed heavily on the condition of our chapters, almost all of which had during the war been suspended, and they have not returned to labor as I had hoped they would have done upon the restoration of peaceful relations. A few, however, have been resuscitated, and the revival will, I trust, be continued, certainly, although slowly, until all our altars shall have been reërected."

In taking leave of his official connection with the Grand Chapter he takes occasion to contrast the condition of Royal Arch Masonry when he commenced his official labors with its present condition. He says :

"As this day will be the last of an official connection with you that has lasted for twenty years, you will tolerate me for a few moments, while I advert to the pressing events of that long period of time.

When I was first elected Deputy Grand High Priest of this Grand Chapter, there were but three subordinate chapters on its roll, one of which had, however, long ceased to work, and its name was preserved on the register only because it was necessary to recognize its proxy, so as to secure a quorum.

At the commencement of the war, the number of chapters in this state amounted to twenty-five ; all of these, excepting three, I have personally organized. I have, in the course of my official duty, visited every chapter in the state, many of them repeatedly, have instructed

them in the work, and may, I think, without arrogance, claim that the present organization of Royal Arch Masonry, in this state, has been produced by my personal labor and teaching.

I say this, not in a spirit of boasting, but simply to you, many of whom have entered our order long after my early labors had begun, the record may be given that, as your presiding officer, I have sought to do my duty. And now, after so much labor performed and such a testimony of the interest I have taken in your welfare, I think this, I am entitled to retire from the field and take my rest.

At the annual grand convocation, when for the eleventh time I was reelected to the honorable post which I had so long held, I then expressed my supreme desire that, at the present convocation, you would determine on my successor.

Nothing has occurred during the past year to cause me to change my views or revoke my determination. Therefore, while I thank you for past kindness, and invoke on you in the future the blessing and protection of the High Priest of Heaven and Earth, I respectfully announce that, under no considerations whatever, will I be considered, at the present convocation, a candidate for reelection."

Comp. R. S. BRUNS, chairman of the committee on foreign correspondence, presented a very interesting, able and discreet review of the proceedings of fourteen Grand Chapters, ours not included, from which we would like to make liberal extracts, but time will not permit. We give only his introductory and closing remarks as characteristic of the conciliatory tone, kindly feelings and masonic charity and forbearance that shines conspicuous, and permeates through his whole report. In his introduction he utters the following noble, elevated, and truly masonic sentiment in which we most heartily concur. He says :

“Masonry at large, throughout our country, is in a most flourishing condition, and we are glad to be able to report that the sentiments generally expressed, by the Grand High Priests, in Northern jurisdictions, are such as do honor to that large spirit of charity which is the just boast of our order. But we regret to notice that, in a few instances, a narrow sectional feeling has exhibited itself in the form of a harsh, and ungenerous attack upon the character of the Southern people. It is not this spirit which will heal the wounds of a country still sore and bleeding; nor is it by such expressions that a cordial and harmonious sentiment of brotherly love is likely to be developed. If we have erred in any respect in the past, we have paid, and are still paying, a heavy penalty for our fault; and no brave or honest man — no true Mason, in a word — will be guilty of the cowardice of striking at those who are already prostrate. Rather will he extend to every fallen sufferer the hand of sympathy, and do all in his power to repair the broken state, and soothe the wounded feelings, of those whose very defencelessness forbids attack.

Let us trust and pray that we shall not again be called upon to refer to any expression of sentiment or feeling inconsistent with the vital principles of our order; but rather hope that Masons everywhere will unite, and cordially unite, in the noble work of succoring the distressed and healing those that be sick, making the lame to walk and the blind to see.”

He closed his report with the following beautiful, eloquent and masonic sentiment:

“Your committee have performed the task assigned them with care and diligence, if not with ability. In closing their report they take leave to urge upon the chapters the utmost zeal in the resumption of their labors, which for several years could not properly be pursued. It will also be well to remember that the times are such as to require the utmost exercise of toleration and indulgence among themselves, and towards their fellow-citizens as well as companions. In the universal distress which prevails, and the general deficiency of resources, we should espe-

cially set the example of good-will, kindness, charity, and love, and forbear even the prosecution of a right, when such prosecution can be urged only at the expense of humanity. Nor will it be amiss if we council the companions and brethren of the chapters and lodges in our sister states, to the avoidance of all expressions of political opinion which may wound the pride or the sensibilities, or occasion strife among citizens and brethren. We renew the declaration so frequently made before, that we desire nothing more earnestly than peace, love, and charity with all Masons, in all states and nations. That we pray for the restoration of peace and of the ancient ties of brotherhood, which bound us together, in better times, as one. And we give the assurance from the very bottom of our hearts, that we will earnestly and honestly strive to reknit the four-fold cord of faith and fraternity which masonry has alone been able to weave around its people for so many thousand years unbroken. May the Grand High Priest of Heaven give us the proper strength to keep our vows, and maintain our cords unbroken as our faith."

Comp. R. S. BRUNS, Charleston, was elected M. E. G. H. P. and Comp. EBENEZER THAYER, Charleston, was reëlected R. E. Grand Secretary.

CONCLUSION.

In presenting this report we fear we have violated our promise in the outset to be brief. We have extended it beyond the limit we set for ourself, and the only apology we offer is our desire that our companions should, in some measure, enjoy the pleasure in reading, that we have enjoyed in the examination of the large mass of interesting matter contained in the proceedings coming to our notice.

We sincerely regret our inability to present our report in a more attractive form, but we have done the best we could under the press of important duties. It has been our aim to present such matter as would be useful and interesting in this jurisdiction. If we have failed in this object it is owing to an error in judgment, for which we plead only the imperfection of human nature.

In the course of our review we have intended to give credit for, and commend, every production we deemed worthy of commendation and condemn, in as mild terms as we could, whatever we deemed censurable, without favor or partiality. We have endeavored "nothing to extenuate nor set down aught in malice," but to "present things truly as they came to our knowledge."

It has afforded us great pleasure to witness the tone of

feeling and manifestations of joy almost universally expressed by companions in the North and in the South who have so long been estranged, at the advent of peace when they can again interchange mutual congratulations, and assemble around our sacred altar in full fellowship and hearts overflowing with charity and pure beneficence.

We are sorry to say that in the course of our examinations we have, in some few instances, witnessed a want of that candor, manly dignity, masonic courtesy and brotherly feeling that ought to characterize every Royal Arch Mason, and when we have met with the exhibition of any bitterness of feeling or any unkind and discourteous expressions from any quarter we have been free to express our disapprobation, and protest in strong terms against the introduction of anything sectional, political or sectarian into any masonic production. We, however, have the charity to hope that the few instances of indiscretion we have noticed have been rather the result of a warm and impulsive temperament than a settled hostility and vindictiveness and that a calm reflection and a recurrence to the heaven-born principles of our beloved institution will restore good fellowship, peace, harmony and brotherly love between members of our time-honored institution throughout our common country and the whole habitable world.

We are happy in being able to state that the utmost harmony prevails within the respective jurisdictions of Royal Arch Masonry whose proceedings have reached us,

and that those grand and subordinate bodies who have suffered most by the unhappy conflict in which our country has been engaged, are rallying around their altars, renewing their vows and striving with all their means to retrieve their former prosperity, and may the God of peace bless them and crown their efforts with abundant success.

Thanking our companions for the confidence reposed in us, and hoping that the broad mantle of charity and brotherly love will be thrown over our many imperfections and errors, we close our report.

HORACE CHASE,

for the Committee.

Order of High Priesthood.

A Convention of High Priests for the State of New Hampshire was held at Masonic Temple, in Concord, June 11, 1867.

Present :

Comp. THOMAS E. HATCH, *President*.

“ JOHN D. PATTERSON, *Chaplain*.

“ HORACE CHASE, *Secretary*.

“ JOHN R. HOLBROOK, *Conductor*.

And Companion JOHN KNOWLTON and several other members of the order.

The Council was opened in due form by the M. E. President.

M. E. Companions, EDWARD GUSTINE, High Priest of Cheshire Chapter, No. 4; ASAHEL A. BALCH, High Priest of Trinity Chapter, No. 11; and M. L. MORRISON, High Priest of Peterborough Chapter, No. 12, severally presented credentials of their election and installation as High Priests, which being satisfactory to the Council, they were severally introduced, set apart and solemnly conse-

crated to the office of High Priest in due and ancient form.

The council then proceeded to the election of officers for the year ensuing, and the following companions were declared duly elected :

M. E. N. W. CUMNER, Manchester, *President*.

C. W. HARVEY, Concord, *Vice President*.

HORACE CHASE, Hopkinton, *Secretary*.

J. D. PATTERSON, Manchester, *Chaplain*.

THOMAS SPURLIN, Dover, *Conductor*.

T. J. SANBORN, Concord, *Herald*.

Comp. CHASE offered the following resolution which was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the thanks of this convention be tendered to M. E. Comp. THOMAS E. HATCH for the dignified manner in which he has presided over this convention as its presiding officer, and for his able and efficient discharge of the duties of that office for the last two years.

The council was then closed in due form.

Attest :

HORACE CHASE, *Secretary*.

